

Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

11495 COMMERCE PARK DRIVE, RESTON, VIRGINIA 20191-1506
TELEPHONE: +1-703-620-4880 FAX: +1-703-476-8522
EMAIL: maritime@register-iri.com WEBSITE: www.register-iri.com

MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 17-22

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations

Subject: GUIDELINES FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF FALSE DISTRESS ALERTS

Date: 21 July 2022 (renewed 21 July 2023)

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) recently issued Resolution [MSC.514\(105\)](#), *Guidance for The Avoidance of False Distress Alerts*. The new guidelines take effect on 1 January 2024 and supersede IMO Resolution [A.814\(19\)](#).

All shipowners, operators, Masters, and seafarers should take into consideration these guidelines to avoid false distress alerts and ensure the proper operation of radiocommunication services, particularly the use of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (§4, pages 3-5).

This MSA is evaluated annually by the Administrator and expires one year after its issuance or renewal unless otherwise noted, superseded, or revoked.