

International Maritime Organization

Overview of the 1974 SOLAS Convention

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INTERNATIONAL
MARITIME
ORGANIZATION



MARPOL AT 50
OUR COMMITMENT GOES ON

Established in
1948 by
adoption of
the IMO
Convention

Headquarters
in London,
United
Kingdom

More than
300
internationally
recruited staff



Assembly
Council
5 Committees
7 Sub-Committees

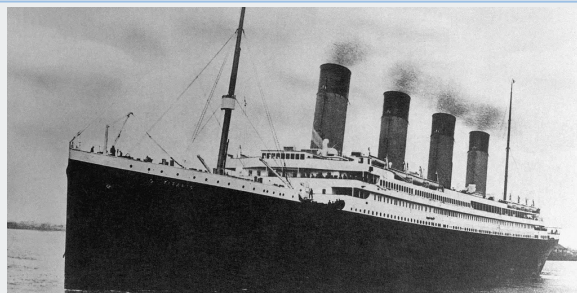
175 Member States
and three Associate
Members

In charge of 50
international
Conventions
and Protocols

Overview of the 1974 SOLAS Convention

History of SOLAS

15 April 1912



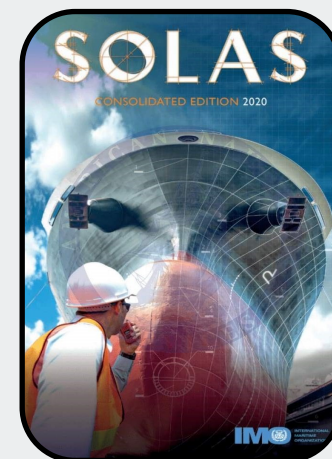
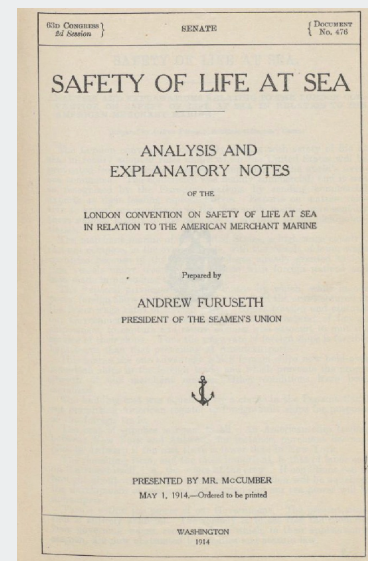
1914 first International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)

1929 second, third and fourth versions

1948

1960

1974 Current version of SOLAS
Adopted on 1 November 1974
Entered into force on 25 May 1980



Overview of the 1974 SOLAS Convention

SOLAS Chapters

Chapter I	General Provisions
Chapter II-1	Construction - Subdivision and stability, machinery and electrical installations
Chapter II-2	Fire protection, fire detection and fire extinction
Chapter III	Life-saving appliances and arrangements
Chapter IV	Radiocommunications
Chapter V	Safety of navigation
Chapter VI	Carriage of Cargoes
Chapter VII	Carriage of dangerous goods
Chapter VIII	Nuclear ships
Chapter IX	Management for the Safe Operation of Ships
Chapter X	Safety measures for high-speed craft
Chapter XI-1	Special measures to enhance maritime safety
Chapter XI-2	Special measures to enhance maritime security
Chapter XII	Additional safety measures for bulk carriers
Chapter XIII	Verification of compliance
Chapter XIV	Safety measures for ships operating in polar waters
Chapter XV	Safety measures for ships carrying industrial personnel New!

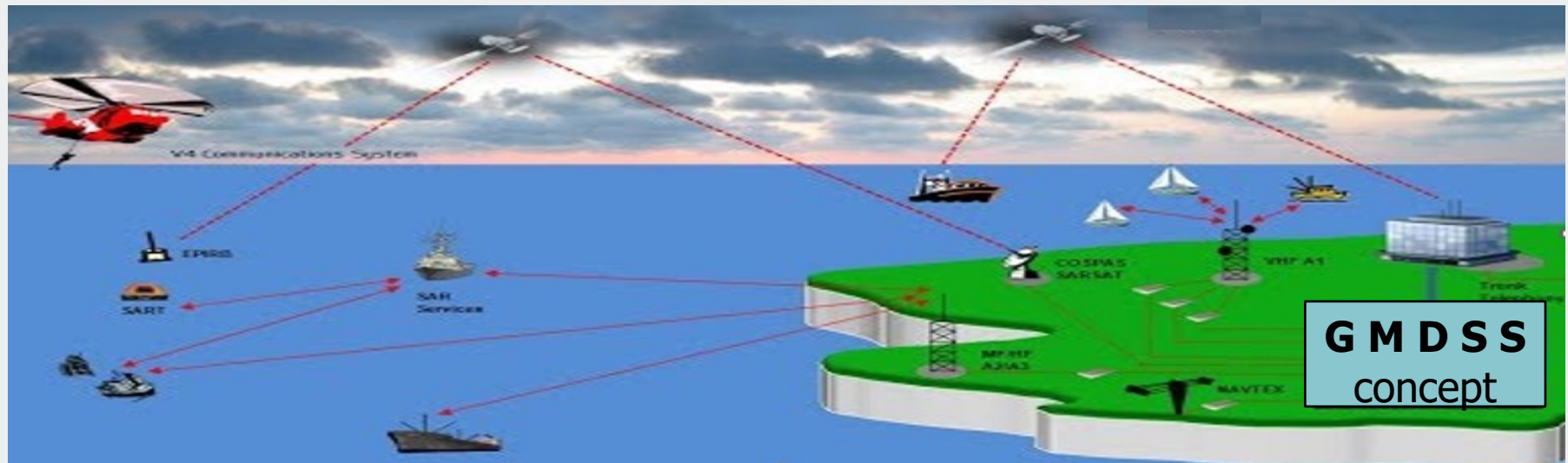
Overview of the 1974 SOLAS Convention

SOLAS Chapter IV - Radiocommunications

Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)

Aim: to provide facilities for rapid alerting of search and rescue authorities ashore, as well as shipping in the immediate vicinity of a ship in distress, to coordinate and execute SAR operations with minimum delay.

- Adoption of SOLAS amendments on 1 February 1992
- Fully implemented on 1 February 1999

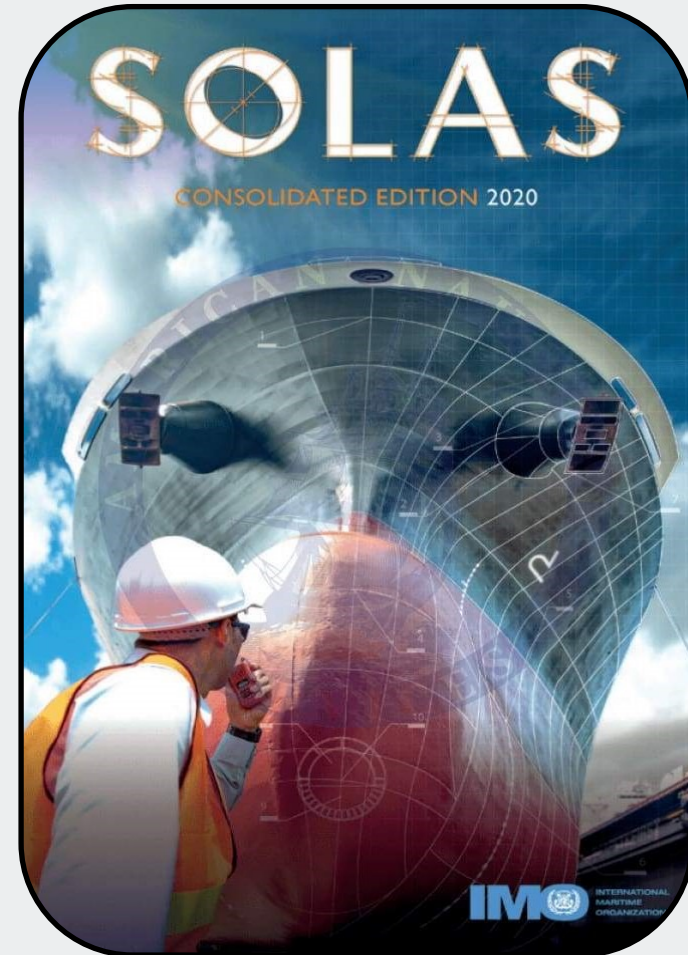


Overview of the 1974 SOLAS Convention

SOLAS Chapter IV - Radiocommunications

Chapter IV contains provisions for:

- Application requirements
- Functional requirements
- Undertakings by SOLAS Contracting Governments
- Radio installations for sea areas A1/A2/A3/A4
- Radio watchkeeping
- Source of energy
- Equipment performance standards
- Maintenance requirements
- Radio personnel
- Radio records
- Position updating



Overview of the 1974 SOLAS Convention

SOLAS Chapter IV - Radiocommunications

maritime mobile service in the bands between
121.5 MHz and 174 MHz

satellite service
on **406 MHz**

mobile satellite services between
1 530 MHz and 1 645.5 MHz

VHF-DSC

Handheld VHF

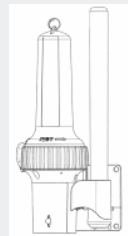
AIS-SART

EPIRB

INMARSAT

IRIDIUM

[BEIDOU]



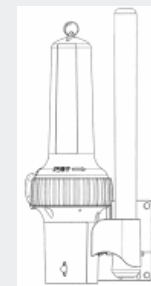
maritime mobile service in the bands between
415 kHz and 27 500 kHz

radar **SART** on
**9 200 MHz to
9 500 MHz**

NAVTEX [and NAVDAT]

MF/HF-DSC

NBDP



Overview of the 1974 SOLAS Convention

SOLAS Chapter IV - Radiocommunications

Ongoing work...

- BeiDou Message Service System ([BDMSS](#))
- NAVDAT
- VDES

Future work...

- Digitalization of the VHF maritime mobile band
- VDES Ranging mode (R-Mode)

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SOLAS Chapter IV - Radiocommunications

Wrap up

- History of the SOLAS Convention
- Structure of the Convention
- Chapter IV (Radiocommunications)
- Ongoing work towards new systems
- Future work for more digitalization

IMO's World Maritime Theme for 2024: "Navigating the future: **safety first!**"



International Maritime Organization

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