

NOTICE TO MARINERS No.10 of 2014

USE OF AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEMS (AIS) IN THE PORT OF LONDON

Vessel Masters and Operators are reminded of their obligations to maintain an operational and correctly configured AIS installation under the following Regulations:

SOLAS Chapter 5 – Safety of Navigation – Regulation 19

PLA Thames Byelaw 12 – Thames AIS Carriage Requirements

PLA General Direction 33 – Requirement for Operational AIS

Configuration of AIS installations

General Direction for Navigation in the Port of London Number 33 (Requirement for Operational AIS) stipulates that where a vessel is required by international law or PLA Byelaws to fit and operate AIS, the system shall be switched on at all times when the vessel is underway.

Prior to navigating in the Thames, vessel Masters should ensure that the appropriate navigation status is set within their AIS installation. For Reporting Vessels, London VTS will verify that the appropriate AIS status is set prior to granting permission to proceed.

One of the following navigation statuses should be set for a vessel seeking to navigate in the Thames:

Under way using engine,	At anchor,
Under way sailing,	Not under command,
Constrained by her draught,	Aground,
Restricted manoeuvrability,	Engaged in fishing.

Defects with Thames AIS installations

Vessels subject to PLA Thames Byelaw 12 (Thames AIS Carriage Requirements) shall ensure that their AIS installation remains serviceable and correctly configured at all times when underway.

In the event of a defect with a Thames AIS installation, vessel Masters should inform London VTS of the nature of the defect immediately. Vessel Masters should subsequently provide London VTS with details of the intentions for repair/rectification within 24 hours of the defect being discovered.

Recognising that Thames AIS is a safety critical situation awareness tool, failure to declare a defect with a Thames AIS installation or to provide details of the intentions for repair/rectification within 24 hours may result in enforcement action.

22 April 2014

Port of London Authority
London River House, Royal Pier Road,
Gravesend, Kent DA12 2BG

DAVID PHILLIPS
CHIEF HARBOUR MASTER



EXPIRY DATE: N/A
TO RECEIVE FUTURE NOTICES TO MARINERS BY **E-MAIL**,
PLEASE REGISTER VIA OUR WEBSITE www.pla.co.uk
Telephone calls, VHF radio traffic, CCTV and radar traffic images may be recorded in the VTS Centres at Gravesend and Woolwich.

