

L.N. 298 of 2007

**TERRITORIAL WATERS AND CONTIGUOUS ZONE ACT
(CAP. 226)**

**MALTA MARITIME AUTHORITY ACT
(CAP. 352)**

**Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Reporting Requirements
(Amendment) Regulations, 2007**

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 7 of the Territorial Waters and Contiguous Zone Act and, by article 28 of the Malta Maritime Authority Act, the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and the Minister for Competitiveness and Communications, after consultation with the Malta Maritime Authority, have made the following regulations:-

1. These regulations may be cited as the Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (Amendment) Regulations, 2007 and shall be read and construed as one with the Vessel Traffic Regulations, 2004 hereinafter referred to as “the principal regulations”.

Citation.

L.N. 458 of 2004.

2. Regulation 9 of the principal regulations shall be substituted as follows:

Substitutes regulation 9 of the principal regulations.

“Automatic identification system and voyage data recorder system.

9. (a) Any ship calling at a port in Malta shall be fitted with an automated identification system (AIS) which meets the performance standards drawn up by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO):

Provided that this regulation shall not apply to:

(i) passenger ships below 300 gross tonnage engaged only in domestic voyages; and

(ii) all other ships below 300 gross tonnage.

(b) Ships fitted with an AIS shall maintain it in operation at all times except where international agreements, rules or standards provide for the protection of navigational information.

(c) Any ship calling at a port in Malta shall be fitted with a voyage data recorder (VDR) system meeting the performance standards of IMO Resolution A.861(20) and the

testing standards set by Standard No 61996 of the International Electronics Commission (IEC):

Provided that:

(i) passenger ships engaged only in domestic voyages in sea areas other than those covered by Class A, as referred to in Article 4 of Council Directive 98/18/EC of 17 March 1998 on safety rules and Standards for passenger ships and other ships of less than 3,000 gross tonnage are exempted from being fitted with the VDR;

(ii) cargo ships of 3,000 gross tonnage and upwards, constructed before 1 July 2002, shall be fitted with a VDR not later than the dates established in terms of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) 1974, as amended.

(d) Data which has been collected from a VDR system shall be made available to the competent authority to be properly analysed as part of an investigation following a casualty within the territorial waters of Malta. The findings of such an investigation shall be published as soon as possible after its conclusion.”.