



# RAYAH MARITIME SERVICES GROUP (RMSG)

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**Subject:** Unified Interpretation on the annual testing of VDR, S-VDR AIS & EPIRB

**Refer to:** Ship Owners, Operators, all agents & Surveyors

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The unified interpretation of SOLAS regulations V/18.8, V/18.9 and IV/15.9 requires for the annual testing of VDR, S-VDR, AIS and EPIRB to be completed before the endorsement/ renewal of relevant certificate.

Based on the IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1576, below you may find the approved unified interpretation of SOLAS regulations V/18.8, V/18.9 and IV/15.9 relating to the annual testing of VDR, S-VDR, AIS and EPIRB.

## [SOLAS regulation V/18.8 – Annual performance test of voyage data recorder \(VDR\) and simplified voyage data recorder \(S-VDR\)](#)

The annual performance test of VDR (or S-VDR) shall be carried out within the "time window" of the annual / periodical / renewal survey under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC), but not later than the date of completion of the survey for endorsement / renewal of the relevant Certificate.

## [SOLAS regulation V/18.9 – Annual performance test of automatic identification system \(AIS\)](#)

The annual performance test of the AIS shall be carried out within the "time window" of the annual / periodical / renewal survey under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC), but not later than the date of completion of the survey for endorsement / renewal of the relevant Certificate.

## [SOLAS regulation IV/15.9 – Annual test of EPIRB](#)

The annual test of the EPIRBs shall be carried out within the "time window" of the prescribed survey, but not later than the date of completion of the survey for endorsement / renewal of the relevant Certificate.

### [Act now](#)

Ship Owners / Managers / Operators are invited to take a note on the above unified interpretations and ensure that the annual performance tests of VDR, S-VDR, AIS and EPIRB are completed before our Surveyor endorses or renews the applicable certificates. The annual performance tests must be carried out by an approved service supplier.

Surveyors shall take a note on the above unified interpretations and ensure at the upcoming surveys that the annual performance tests of these equipment are successfully completed before endorsing or renewing applicable certificates.

**Best regards**

[Rayah Maritime Services Group \(RMSG\)](#)

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