

ShipLoc, an alarm and anti-piracy system, responds to the SOLAS XI-2/6 regulations adopted by the IMO (International Maritime Organization) in London, during its Diplomatic conference in December 2002.

The Ship Security Alert System (SSAS) regulation that will be put into place as of July 2004, requires ships of over 500 tons to be equipped with an alarm system in order to reinforce ship security.

The system allows the crew, in case of danger, to activate an alarm button that automatically sends a message to the ship owner and to competent authorities.

The message is sent without being able to be detected by someone on-board or by other ships in the vicinity.

THE REGULATION SOLAS XI-2/6 STATES THAT:

Power Supply:

The ship security alert system is powered from the ship's main source of electrical power, it should in addition, be possible to operate the system from another appropriate source of power.

Activation points:

Activation points should be capable of being used on the navigation bridge and in other locations. They should be protected against inadvertent operation.

Operation

The activation should operate a radio system such that transmission of the security alert does not require any adjustment of the radio system, i.e tuning of channels, settings of mode or menu options.

Operation of the activation point should not cause any alarm or indication to be raised on the ship.

The operation of the ship security alert system should not impair the functionality of the GMDSS installation.

Transmission of security alerts

In all cases, transmission initiated by security alert system activation points should include a unique code / identifier indicating that the alert has not been generated in accordance with the GMDSS distress procedures.

The transmission should include the ship identity and current position.

The transmission should be addressed to a shore and should not be addressed to ship stations.

The ship security alert system, when activated, should continue the ship security alert until deactivated

Testing

The ship security alert system should be capable of being tested.

The ShipLoc system corresponds perfectly to these specifications.

ShipLoc is contained in a small, discrete waterproof unit which includes: an Argos transmitter, a GPS receiver, a battery pack in case of main power failure, and a flat antenna.

The ShipLoc system is the only SSAS approved by the IMB, international anti-piracy organization.

ShipLoc is also the only system which has data that are 100% reliable as its uses a second location system independent of GPS, to verify the GPS fixes.

ShipLoc is operated by CLS, subsidiary of the CNES (French Space Agency).

CLS operates several satellite systems, including the Argos location and data collection system. Argos is dedicated to studying and protecting the environment. In some instances it can also be used when there is a risk of loss of life.

