FURUNO

GMDSS

Global Maritime Distress and Safety System

GMDSS Product Lineup

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About GMDSS

The Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) is an international safety system designed to ensure that distress alerts are received by shore-based rescue authorities and nearby vessels. By integrating land and sea communications, GMDSS enables timely and effective rescue operations, regardless of a ship's location. Introduced by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in 1992, the system plays a vital role not only in distress and safety communications at sea but also in supporting efficient navigation and public correspondence. As part of its modernization, the Iridium satellite network was recognized as a GMDSS satellite service starting in 2024, joining the existing Inmarsat system. This enhancement allows Iridium to serve as a ship earth station for distress communications, further strengthening global maritime safety.

GMDSS Product Lineup

MES — INMARSAT-C MES

Mobile Earth Station

- Inmarsat-C communication terminal
- Supports both touch panel and keyboard operation
- Compatible with SSAS and LRIT

Model : FELCOM20

NAVTEX — NAVTEX RECEIVER

Navigation Telex

- NAVTEX receiver for automatically receiving maritime safety information
- Equipped with a 5.7-inch color LCD for excellent visibility
- Received messages can be stored in memory

Model : NX-900

MF/HF — SSB RADIOTELEPHONE

MF/HF Radiotelephone

- MF/HF radiotelephone with built-in DSC and DSC watch receiver
- Easy and intuitive operation with rotary knob and keypad
- High-brightness, high-contrast 4.3-inch LCD for excellent visibility

Model : FS-1575/FS-2575

VHF RADIOTELEPHONE

Marine VHF Radiotelephone

- VHF radiotelephone compliant with DSC Class A
- Easy and intuitive operation with rotary knob and keypad
- Clear audio quality with noise suppression

Model : FM-8900S

ALARM UNIT

for GMDSS Distress

- Centralized management of distress alerts from connected GMDSS equipment
- Immediate alert function via DISTRESS button
- Compact design with excellent visibility and operability

Model : IC-350

GMDSS RADIO STATION

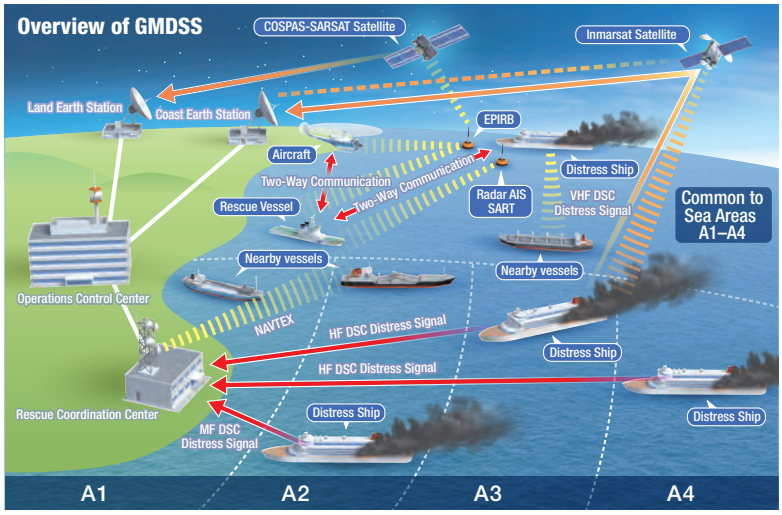
Global Maritime Distress and Safety System

- Integrated radio communication system
- Built-in power unit for easy installation and maintenance
- Approximately 27% weight reduction compared to previous models

Model : RC-2024

GMDSS Sea Areas

GMDSS defines four sea areas based upon the location and capability of onshore-based communication facilities. The definition of the Sea Areas for GMDSS is outlined below.



Sea Area A1

Means an area within the radiophone coverage of at least one VHF coast station in which continuous DSC alerting is available, as may be defined by a Contracting Government.

Sea Area A2

Means an area, excluding sea area A1, within the radiotelephone coverage of at least one MF coast station in which continuous DSC alerting is available, as may be defined by a Contracting Government.

Sea Area A3

Means an area, excluding sea areas A1 and A2, within the coverage of a recognized mobile satellite service supported by the ship earth station carried on board in which continuous alerting is available.

Sea Area A4

Means an area outside of sea areas A1, A2 and A3.

Equipment Requirements for GMDSS

General requirement for equipment and functions for all ships irrespective of the operating sea area.

Equipment	A1	A2	A3	A4	Applicable Model
VHF telephony installation with DSC	○	○	○	○	FM-8900S
Duplicated VHF with DSC	○	○	○	○	FM-8900S
MF telephony*5 installation with MF DSC		○	○		FS-1575/2575
Duplicated MF*5 with DSC		○			FS-1575/2575
MF/HF telephony*5 installation with DSC				○	FS-1575/2575
Duplicated MF/HF telephony*5 with DSC			○*4	○	FS-1575/2575
SES providing RMSS			○		FELCOM20
Duplicated SES providing RMSS			○*4		FELCOM20
Receiver(s) for MSI and SAR-related information*3	○	○	○	○	FELCOM20, NX-900
Float-free EPIRB	○	○	○	○	Tron 60AIS*6
Radar SART or AIS SART	○*1	○*1	○*1	○*1	Tron AIS-SART*6
Portable GMDSS VHF transceivers	○*2	○*2	○*2	○*2	HT649*6
Automatic updating of position to all relevant radiocommunication equipment	○	○	○	○	GP-170
"Distress panel" and "distress alarm panel" (Only passenger ships)	○	○	○	○	IC-350
Two-way-on-scene radiocommunication on 121.5 MHz and 123.1 MHz from the navigating bridge. (Only passenger ships)	○	○	○	○	

*1 Cargo ships between 300 and 500 gt.: 1 set. Cargo ships of 500 gt. and upwards and passenger ships: 2 sets.
*2 Cargo ships between 300 and 500 gt.: 2 sets. Cargo ships of 500 gt. and upwards and passenger ships: 3 sets.
*3 This may be either a combined ship earth station and EGC receiver or separate pieces of equipment.
*4 Ships in sea area A3 may choose between duplication with either complete MF/HF transceiver or SES providing an RMSS with coverage equal to or broader than the primary RMSS.
*5 A single MF/HF radio installation may be accepted both as a primary MF radio installation and a duplicated MF/HF radio installation, as provided in this circular.
*6 Check with a local Furuno representative for arrangement.

FURUNO ELECTRIC CO., LTD.
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Find your local contact point

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