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BETREFF **BNWAS functional equivalent arrangement in accordance with SOLAS regulation V/19
62321.3/1-SOLAS-Kap V/19, SLS 14/Circ.**

DATUM **Bonn, 04.11.2011**

Your Excellency,

In accordance with SOLAS in terms of the provision of SOLAS regulation V/19.2.2.4, the Government of Germany should like to inform all Contracting Governments on the acceptance of existing arrangements and equipment in accordance with paragraph 2.2 and the new subparagraph .4: "A bridge navigational watch alarm system (BNWAS) which was installed prior to 1 July 2011 may subsequently be exempted from full compliance with the standards adopted by the Organization, at the discretion of the Administration."

For many years Germany requires that all ships with a keel laying date after 1 January 1988 have to be equipped with a fixed installed "Bridge Watch Alarm".

The national performance standard for that equipment is considered to be "equivalent" but not identical with the standard adopted by the Organization.



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Therefore, the German Administration referring to SOLAS Regulation V/19.2.2.4 has decided that all ships under German Flag with a construction date prior to 1 July 2011 and already equipped with a fixed installed "Bridge Watch Alarm" in accordance with the German national requirements do not need to update their equipment to the new BNWAS in accordance with the new SOLAS requirements.

I should be grateful if the enclosed statement is circulated to all Contracting Governments and if steps could be taken to bring this information to the attention of the appropriate authorities.

For the Federal Ministry of Transport, Building
and Urban Affairs

Yours faithfully

Hans-Heinrich Callsen-Bracker