



Ref. T1/3.02

MSC/Circ.887  
21 December 1998

**INTERPRETATION OF THE TERM "OTHER STRATEGIC POINTS"  
IN SOLAS REGULATION III/50 AND LSA CODE SECTION VII/7.2**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-fifth session approved MSC/Circ.692 on Clarification of SOLAS regulation III/50 regarding general emergency alarm systems where the expression "other strategic points", with regard to the location of such systems, appears in the above referred regulation.

2 The Committee, at its seventieth session (7 to 11 December 1998), considered that the text of SOLAS regulation III/50 subsequently transferred to the LSA Code, section VII/7.2.1.1, referring to other strategic points might create problems in achieving uniform application, without having a clear indication on which places are regarded as such other strategic points.

3 The Committee, therefore, decided that the term "other strategic points" as laid down in the LSA Code, should be interpreted as follows:

- .1 the minimum number of the required places from where a general emergency alarm system should be capable of being operated is at least two;
- .2 other strategic points are taken to mean those locations, other than the navigation bridge, from where emergency situations are intended to be controlled and the general alarm system can be activated; and
- .3 a fire control station or a cargo control station should normally be regarded as strategic points.

4 Member Governments are invited to bring the above interpretation to the attention of shipping companies, shipowners, ship operators, shipbuilders, port State control officers and recognized organizations seeking implementation of the above referred regulation in a uniform manner.