



Marine Notice No. 14 of 2023

*Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers,
Yachtsmen and Seafarers*

**Reminder – use of radio Distress, Urgency and
Safety calls in the case of fire or other potentially
serious incident**

The Department of Transport wishes to draw attention to a recent Marine Casualty Investigation Board (MCIB) report, published on 29 December 2022, of an investigation into a fire onboard the ferry “Frazer Tintern” midway between Ballyhack, Co. Wexford and Passage East, Co. Waterford on 5 August 2021. The report may be obtained from the website of the MCIB or accessed at the following link: [Report MCIB/311](#).

In response to one of the report’s recommendations, the purpose of this Marine Notice is to remind **owners and masters of passenger vessels** of the following:

- that in the case of a fire, or other potentially serious incident, a radio Distress, Urgency or Safety call, as appropriate, should be made at the earliest opportunity. The radio telephone prefixes “MAYDAY”, “PAN-PAN” and “SECURITE”, respectively, may be used for these calls.

When being operated on inland waterways of Ireland or at sea, all vessels having an Irish ship radio licence are required to have a qualified marine radio operator onboard who is trained in the appropriate use of these calls.

However, in the case of non-seagoing Class IV and Class V passenger vessels, the department notes that it is not a statutory requirement for such vessels to be fitted with GMDSS radio installations.

Note: Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

Irish Maritime Administration,
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28/02/2023

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:

The Marine Survey Office, email: MSO@transport.gov.ie

For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division, email:

MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie

Written enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:

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