



***UNIVERSITY OF RIJEKA***  
***FACULTY OF MARITIME STUDIES***

**RESTRICTED OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATE  
FOR THE GLOBAL MARITIME DISTRESS  
AND SAFETY SYSTEM**

(In accordance with IMO model course 1.26)

*Rijeka, March 2004*

## **1. SCOPE OF THE COURSE**

This course provides training for every person in charge of performing radio duties on a ship that is required to participate in the GMDSS. This course covers the training recommended in annex 4 to IMO Assembly resolution A.703(17).

The course, also, takes full account of Section A-IV/2 of the STCW Code adopted by the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978, as amended.

## **2. OBJECTIVES**

The participants who successfully complete the course and pass the prescribed exam will be enabled to efficiently operate GMDSS equipment, and to have primary responsibility for radio-communications during distress incidents.

## **3. COURSE DURATION AND EXAMINATION**

The course duration is 4 days (24 hours).

Examination is carried out by the examination board nominated by the Harbour Master's Office in Rijeka.

## **4. COURSE CERTIFICATE**

Documentary evidence specifying the training is issued upon completion of the course and the dedicated certificate is issued after successful completion of the exam.

## **5. COURSE INTAKE LIMITATIONS**

The number of students is limited up to 8 and practical training will be carried out in small groups.

## **6. TEACHING AIDS AND FACILITIES**

Classroom facilities with computers are used for training, as well as following dedicated equipment:

- Fully operational SAILOR GMDSS station,
- Satellite EPIRB (dummy),
- SART (dummy),
- EGC receiver facility,
- Two-way portable VHF radiotelephones, and
- Battery inverter power supply



## 7. COURSE CONTENTS - SUBJECT AREAS

The course curricula consist of the following topics:

- **Introduction:**
  - The course
- **Principles of Maritime Radio-communications:**
  - Principles and basic features of the maritime mobile service
  - Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)
- **GMDSS Communications System:**
  - Purpose and use of Digital Selective Calling (DSC)
  - Knowledge and practical use of VHF ship station equipment
- **Other GMDSS Equipment:**
  - Emergency Position – Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)
  - Search and Rescue Radar Transponders (SARTs)
  - Maritime Safety Information (MSI) services
- **Distress Alerting:**
  - Search and Rescue (SAR) operation
  - GMDSS Distress, Urgency and Safety communications procedures
- **Miscellaneous Skills and Operational Procedures for General Communications:**
  - Ability to use the English language, written and spoken, for the exchange of communication relevant to the safety of life at sea
  - Obligatory procedures and practices
  - Practical and theoretical knowledge of general communication procedures
- **Assessment and Discussion**