

(viii) The auto alarm shall be capable of withstanding vibration, humidity, and changes of temperature, equivalent to severe conditions experienced on board ships at sea, and shall continue to operate under such conditions.

(b) Before a new type of auto alarm is approved the Administration concerned must be satisfied, by practical tests made under operating conditions equivalent to those obtaining in practice, that the apparatus complies with paragraph (a) of this Regulation.

(c) In ships fitted with an auto alarm the radio operator shall test the efficiency of the auto alarm at least once every 24 hours while at sea and report to the master or the officer on watch on the bridge whether or not it is in working order.

Regulation 12

Direction finders

(a) The direction-finding apparatus required by Regulation 12 of Chapter V shall be efficient and capable of receiving signals with the minimum of receiver noise and of taking bearings from which the true bearing and direction may be determined.

(b) It shall be capable of receiving signals on the medium frequencies assigned by the Radio Regulations for the purposes of distress and direction-finding and for maritime radio beacons.

(c) In the absence of interference the apparatus shall have a sensitivity sufficient to permit of accurate bearings being taken on a signal having a field strength as low as 50 microvolts per metre.

(d) Efficient communication shall be provided between the direction-finding apparatus and the bridge.

(e) All direction finders shall be calibrated to the satisfaction of the Administration on first installation and the calibration shall be verified whenever any changes are made in the position of any aerials or of any structures on deck which might affect appreciably the accuracy of the direction finder. The calibration particulars shall be checked at yearly intervals, or as near thereto as possible. A record shall be kept of the calibrations and of any checks made of their accuracy.

Regulation 13

Radio Equipment for fitting in Motor Lifeboats

(a) The apparatus required by Regulation 25 of Chapter III shall be capable of transmitting and receiving on the radiotelegraph frequency assigned by the Radio Regulations for the purpose of distress in the medium frequency band. The transmitter shall be capable of using a class of emission assigned by the Radio Regulations for the purpose of distress in the medium frequency band and shall be modulated to a depth of at least 70 per cent. The receiver shall be capable of receiving the classes of emission assigned by the Radio Regulations for the purpose of distress in the medium frequency band. In new installations the apparatus shall also be capable of transmitting on the high frequency and the class of emission prescribed for survival craft by the Radio Regulations. An Administration may delay the application of the requirement for high frequency for a period not exceeding one year from the date of coming into force of the present Convention.