



MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

PORT MARINE CIRCULAR  
NO. 2 OF 2002

17 Jan 2002

Shipping Community  
Harbour Craft Community

**A) INTRODUCTION OF VESSEL MOVEMENT ALERT AND VESSEL MOBILE SERVICES**

**B) DISCONTINUATION OF (1) VESSEL ENQUIRY SERVICE and (2) FAXING OF PORT MARINE CIRCULARS & PORT MARINE NOTICES**

1 As part of our efforts to provide a better service to the shipping community, we plan to roll out two wireless information services to port users who are always on the move. These two services are called **Vessel Movement Alert Service** and **Vessel Mobile Service**.

2 The Vessel Movement Alert Service allows the users to request for updates of ETA (estimated time of arrival), ETD (estimated time of departure) and current location of specific vessels when certain operational events occur. Examples of such events are change in ship's ETA, when the vessel has arrived in port, when the vessel is due to depart or has departed. Users can indicate through the MARINET the list of vessels and the type of events which are of interest to them. Users can also choose to be alerted through a pager or mobile phone. The Vessel Mobile service allows the users to choose a specific vessel on his mobile phone, and request the information to be sent to him on SMS (short message service). The advantage of this service is that the user can select the vessel on the move.

3 The **Vessel Movement Alert Service** has been made available to MARINET subscribers on 6 Dec 2001. To use the service, the user needs to logon to MARINET and indicate the name of the vessel and the operation events that he wants the system to alert him. The service is located on the main menu of MARINET under the "Vessel and Shipping Information" component. The **Vessel Mobile Service** will be rolled out on **1 March 2002**.

4 In view of the economic downturn, the charges for the new services which will only start wef 1 Jul 2002 are as follows:

Vessel Movement Alert Service (a) Paging: \$0.15 per page with message; and  
(b) SMS : \$0.20 per message sent.

Vessel Mobile Service \$0.20 per SMS message sent.

### **Vessel Enquiry Service (VES)**

5 The present VES which is an automated telephone answering service is 10 years old. The system is obsolete and the retrieval of information is cumbersome and unfriendly. The VES will be discontinued wef 1 Jul 2002. It will be replaced with the Vessel Movement Alert and Vessel Mobile Services from **1 July 2002**. These two new services are far more superior than the VES as they provide users with a faster and convenient means of obtaining vessel information when the customer is on the move. For cruise vessel arrivals/departures, port-users can continue to make enquires by calling the Singapore Cruise Centre's hotline number at 321-2803 or accessing its website at "singaporecruise.com.sg".

### **Port Marine Circulars (PMCs) And Port Marine Notices (PMNs)**

6 All PMCs and PMNs have been posted on MPA's website [www.mpa.gov.sg](http://www.mpa.gov.sg) since early 1999 to facilitate greater convenience for the shipping and harbour craft communities. Taking into account that most of the shipping companies and agencies are MARINET subscribers and others have easy access to the Internet, the current practice of faxing PMCs/PMNs to the shipping and harbour craft communities will be discontinued wef 1 July 2002. An administrative charge of \$10 per copy will continue to be levied if requests for faxed copies of the PMCs/PMNs are required.

7 Should you need any enquires or assistance, please call the following telephone numbers:

- (a) On introduction of Vessel Movement Alert and : MARINET Helpdesk  
Vessel Mobile Services Service Tel No 375-1255
- (b) On discontinuation of VES and PMCs/PMNs : Tel Nos 375-1296 or  
325-2458

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