

U.S. Department
of Transportation

United States
Coast Guard



Commandant
United States Coast Guard

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04-258
16714 / 33 CFR 104
October 20, 2004

Mr. John Flood
ACR Electronics, Inc.
5757 Ravenswood Rd.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

Dear Mr. Flood:

We have evaluated the ACR Electronics, Inc, ACR-RLB 33S ThunderBird S.S.A.S. ship security alert system (SSAS). Based on the information submitted, the system meets the technical requirements outlined in the Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS) Regulation XI-2/6, the performance standards in the International Maritime Organization's Resolution MSC.147(77) and the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services recommended standards for SSAS equipment using the Cospas-Sarsat Satellite system.

This is not a type-approval. Vessel specific details of each SSAS must be included in each vessel's Security Plan. They will be reviewed and approved by the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Center (MSC) on a case by case basis. This process and additional U.S. guidelines for ship security alert systems are described in enclosure 5 to the U.S. Coast Guard Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular 04-03 (http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nvic/NVIC_04-03.pdf). It is important that the Security Plan address message routing and forwarding to the U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) Alameda. If automatic forwarding of the alert broadcast to RCC Alameda is not possible, the Security Plan should identify a competent authority to forward the security alert to RCC Alameda. The MSC can be reached at:

Address: Marine Safety Center
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20001
Voice: (202) 366-6480
Fax: (202) 366-3877 (fax)

If you have any questions please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. Wiest".

A. WIEST
Commander, U.S. Coast Guard
Chief, Systems Engineering Division
Office of Design and Engineering Standards
By direction of the Commandant

Copy: Marine Safety Center