



LRIT CONFORMANCE TEST REPORTS (CTR), NEW LRIT DATA CENTRE, AUTHORISED SERVICE PROVIDERS AND ANNUAL TESTING

Reference: SKN Maritime Circular MC 161 26, Dated 24 July 2026

To: All Shipowners, Ship Operators, Company Security Officers, Masters, Recognized Organizations and Maritime Registrars of St. Kitts & Nevis-flagged vessels

The St. Kitts and Nevis International Ship Registry (SKAN Reg) has issued Maritime Circular MC 161 26, providing unified and updated requirements concerning the Long-Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT), LRIT Conformance Test Reports (CTR), Authorised Service Providers (ASP), and annual LRIT conformance testing, with effect from 1 August 2026. This Technical Note summarises the principal points of the Circular for information.

1. Background

This Circular applies to all St. Kitts and Nevis-flagged vessels subject to SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 19-1, including passenger ships, cargo ships (including high-speed craft) of 300 GT and above, and Mobile Offshore Drilling Units engaged on international voyages, and is based on SOLAS Regulations 19-1.6 and 19-1.7, IMO Resolution MSC.263(84) and MSC.1/Circ.1307/Rev.1.

2. National Data Centre and Authorised Service Provider

With effect from 1 August 2026, the Administration has established a fully functional National Data Centre operated by Polestar (Pole Star Space Applications), which has been nominated as the Authorised Service Provider (ASP) for LRIT conformance testing and issuance of Conformance Test Reports. References in previous circulars to arrangements involving Fulcrum Maritime and/or Collected Localization Satellites (CLS) are superseded by this Circular.

3. Annual Testing and Transition

All vessels must maintain a valid LRIT Conformance Test Report through annual testing at intervals not exceeding twelve months. Vessels that completed a conformance test on or before 31 December 2025 must complete a new test under the revised standard and obtain a replacement CTR no later than 31 December 2026; vessels tested on or after 1 January 2026 must renew 12 months after their previous test date. After 1 November 2026, vessels must hold only CTRs issued under the new conformance testing standard.

NOTES:

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- LRIT conformance testing must only be conducted through Pole Star, the Authorised Service Provider recognised by SKAN Reg.
- Vessels tested on or before 31 December 2025 must complete a new test under the revised standard by 31 December 2026.

Requirement	Effective Date / Status
LRIT conformance testing	Must be conducted only through Pole Star, the Administration's Authorised Service Provider, from 1 August 2026
Vessels tested on or before 31 December 2025	Must complete a new conformance test and obtain a replacement CTR by 31 December 2026
Vessels tested on or after 1 January 2026	Must renew the Conformance Test 12 months after the previous test date

4. Action Required

Shipowners, operators, Company Security Officers and Masters should arrange LRIT conformance testing with Pole Star, ensure a valid Conformance Test Report is retained on board at all times, and notify the Technical Department without delay of any deactivation or malfunction of LRIT equipment. Any questions should be directed to lrir@skanregistry.com.

5. Comprehension Check

Readers are invited to consider the following questions to check their understanding of the requirements summarised above:

1. Who has been nominated by the Administration as the Authorised Service Provider for LRIT conformance testing with effect from 1 August 2026?

A. Fulcrum Maritime B. Pole Star (Pole Star Space Applications) C. Collected Localization Satellites (CLS)

2. By what date must vessels that completed a conformance test on or before 31 December 2025 obtain a replacement CTR?

A. 30 June 2026 B. 31 December 2026 C. 31 December 2027

3. At what maximum interval must a new LRIT Conformance Test be completed?

A. Every 6 months B. Every 12 months C. Every 24 months

For clarification on any of the above, please reach out to:

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