VESSEL: _____   DATE: _____

Details of Training: NAVTEX Receiver

- NAVTEX provides Maritime Safety Information (MSI), navigational and meteorological warnings, meteorological forecasts and other urgent safety-related messages to ships by automatic display or printout.

- NAVTEX transmissions have a designed maximum range of about 400 nautical miles.

- Each transmitter identification character is allocated a maximum transmission time of 10 minutes every 4 hours.

- When there are no NAVTEX messages to be disseminated at a scheduled broadcast time, a brief message is transmitted to advise the mariner that there is no message traffic on hand. Technical subject indicator character, B2 = Z, is to be used to announce "NO MESSAGES ON HAND".

- International NAVTEX Service messages on 518 kHz shall be broadcast only in English. The default setting in a NAVTEX is 518 kHz.

- 490 kHz or 4209 kHz frequency is also used by some countries for broadcasts in their national languages.

- In order to ensure that all necessary maritime safety information has been received, it is recommended that the NAVTEX receiver is left on at all times.

- All NAVTEX receivers are programmable to enable the navigating officer to ensure that only messages from selected NAVTEX Stations are displayed or printed. On automatic selection, the NAVTEX receives Marine Safety Information for the area the ship happens to be in continuously and without any user involvement.

- It is recommended that NAVTEX receiver setting ''to display message only and not print'' must not be used.

Types of Messages

The NAVTEX receives the following kind of messages:

A =   Navigational Warning
B =   Meteorological Warning C= Ice report
D =   Search and Rescue Information/ piracy and armed robbery E= Meteorological forecast
F =   Pilot messages
G =   AIS messages (formerly Decca messages) H= Loran C messages
I =   Omega messages
J =   Satnav messages (GPS or GLONASS)
K =   Other electronic navigational aid system messages L= navigational warnings (additional)
M to U =   Reserve
V =   Notice to fisherman W to Y= Reserve
Z =   No messages on hand

- The NAVTEX receiver can be set to ignore certain types of messages, however, messages A, B, D

and L because of their importance cannot be rejected by navigating officers.

- Messages received which have been transmitted using subject indicator character D will set off an alarm built into the NAVTEX receiver.

The Format of the Message

- B1: This character represents the Station ID.

- B2: This character is called the Subject Indicator. It is used to represent the type of message. (A to Z)

- The characters B1 and B2 are used by the NAVTEX receivers to reject messages from stations of concerning subjects of no interest to the officer.

- B3 and B4: B3 and B4 is a 2 digit serial number for each message. NNNN: This indicates the end of message.

The characters B3 and B4 are used by receivers to keep already received message from being repeated.

NAVTEX Receiver Checklist:

- Make sure that there are sufficient rolls of NAVTEX paper on board.

- Check that there is paper in the receiver so that any important message is not missed out.

- NAVTEX to be kept ON at all times to avoid the chance of losing vital information that might affect the vessel during it's voyage.

- Make sure that the operating manual is available on the bridge.

- Using operating manual, make a handy guide for programming, status and auto testing procedures, place it is a plastic cover and kept with the equipment.

- Have available next to equipment a plastic copy of the NAVAREAs/METAREAs in which the vessel is likely to sail, showing the NAVTEX stations, their coverage ranges and their respective time schedules and B1 characters.

- Programme your receiver to accept only those messages identified with the B1 character of the NAVTEX station which covers the area which covers the area in which your vessel is currently sailing and the one covering the area into which you are about to sail. This will avoid the equipment printing information which has no relevance to your voyage and will avoid unnecessary waste of paper.

- Programme your receiver to accept only those messages identified with the B2 characters (type of messages) you wish to receive. Be aware that characters A, B and D must be included as they are mandatory.

- Take extra care not to confuse the programming of B1 characters (station designators) with those of B2 characters (type of messages). It is very easy for an operator to believe that he/she is programming B1 characters when in fact they are programming B2 characters. After programming always check the programme status to ensure that it is correct.

- Routine tests should be carried out to check the performance of the equipment.

The above has been read and understood:

CO: _____

2O: _____

3O: _____

X2O / X3O _____

D/C _____

Verified by: Master _____

Feedback: