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## Cobham SATCOM: Italy takes lead on SOLAS fire fighter radio specification

*SAILOR 3965 UHF Fire Fighter already matches first flag state standards published*

**Copenhagen, Denmark** – The Italian Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport has become the first national authority to publish specifications for new portable radios required under SOLAS Chapter II-2, Regulation 10.10.4 – ‘Fire Fighters Communication’. Coming into force this summer for 65,000 SOLAS vessels, Regulation 10.10.4 is designed to improve safety by securing

dedicated communication systems for fire parties on board. While legally binding for Italian flagged ships, Cobham SATCOM believes that Italy's standards will have global ramifications, as confusion persists on the required product specifications for compliance.

Italy states that all radios dedicated to fire parties on board Italian flagged SOLAS vessels must comply with RED (directive 2014/53/UE) or RTTE (directive 1999/05/CE) for equipment sold before 13 June 2017. Radios must have a declaration of conformity to refer to ETSI EN 300 720 for equipment in UHF band or ETSI EN 301 178 for equipment in VHF band and be compliant with the ATEX directive 2014/34/UE. Critically, the declaration of conformity must refer to EN 60079-11:2012 with radios classified at least ATEX II 2G EX ib IIB T4.

*“While legally binding to Italian flagged vessels, it’s also expected that other flag states and surveyors globally will base their approach on Italy’s radio specifications for Regulation 10.10.4,”* said Niels Peter Agdal, Director – Radio, Safety & Tracking, Cobham SATCOM. *“To avoid potential financial penalties or port delays and to support the safety of fire parties in action, we recommend that all SOLAS shipowners review the Italian specifications and act accordingly by ensuring they order maritime approved radios rated to ATEX IIB, such as the SAILOR 3965 UHF Fire Fighter.”*

*“Italy’s take on Regulation 10.10.4 is in line with Cobham SATCOM’s understanding from the very beginning, so we are pleased to see that the high standards and focus on safety we set with our dedicated SAILOR 3965 UHF Fire Fighter portable radio have been vindicated. Ship owners already have an intrinsically safe product that’s ready for order and that provides significant safety benefits and confidence that it complies with the new regulations,”* said Christian Kock, Vice President, Global Sales & Marketing, Maritime.

## **About Cobham SATCOM**

**Providing dependable communications and internet access anywhere under the most demanding conditions.**

Our satellite and radio communication terminals perform in the most challenging and remote environments on land, at sea and in the air.

We design and manufacture these high performance products under the AVIATOR, EXPLORER, SAILOR and Sea Tel brands providing customers with outstanding performance, value and support through our global sales and service network.

## **About Cobham**

Cobham offers an innovative range of technologies and services to solve challenging problems in commercial, defence and security markets, from deep space to the depths of the ocean.

We employ around 10,000 people primarily in the USA, UK, Europe and Australia, and have customers and partners in over 100 countries, with market leading positions in: wireless, audio, video and data communications, including satellite communications; defence electronics; air-to-air refuelling; aviation services; life support and mission equipment.

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## **Enquiries**

### **Cobham SATCOM**

Henrietta Jessen

Head of Product Marketing

+45 3955 8924

[henrietta.jessen@cobham.com](mailto:henrietta.jessen@cobham.com)

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