

Iridium® GMDSS

Get the Facts on the Only Truly Global GMDSS Solution

In 2020, Iridium will bring Global Maritime Distress Safety System (GMDSS) services to the market for the first time ever, giving you real choice and making critical safety services available to mariners anywhere on the globe. Iridium Connected® GMDSS terminals will provide all three satellite GMDSS services at a fraction of the cost of competitive options - and Iridium GMDSS services will be the first to offer truly global coverage, even in Sea Area A4.

The Need for GMDSS

GMDSS is an internationally recognized distress communications safety system, mandated by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to help ships prevent accidents and ensure they can get help in the event of an emergency.

Iridium has worked diligently with inaugural manufacturer, Lars Thrane, along with several service providers to enable mariners to send Distress Alerts and make Distress Calls to Rescue Coordination Centers (RCC) from anywhere in the world. Upon successful completion of all required tests, Iridium will launch commercial service of its truly global satellite GMDSS offering.

The History of Iridium GMDSS

Historically, only one satellite provider offered GMDSS services, limiting the coverage and capability options to seafarers. Over the past decade, Iridium has worked closely with international regulatory bodies and rescue agencies, culminating in 2018 with recognition by the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the IMO that Iridium meets the requirements to be a GMDSS provider. In December 2019, the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO), the GMDSS regulator, issued a Letter of Compliance to Iridium, fulfilling the final regulatory milestone to offer service for Iridium GMDSS.

The Difference Between the Existing GMDSS Satellite Solution and Iridium GMDSS

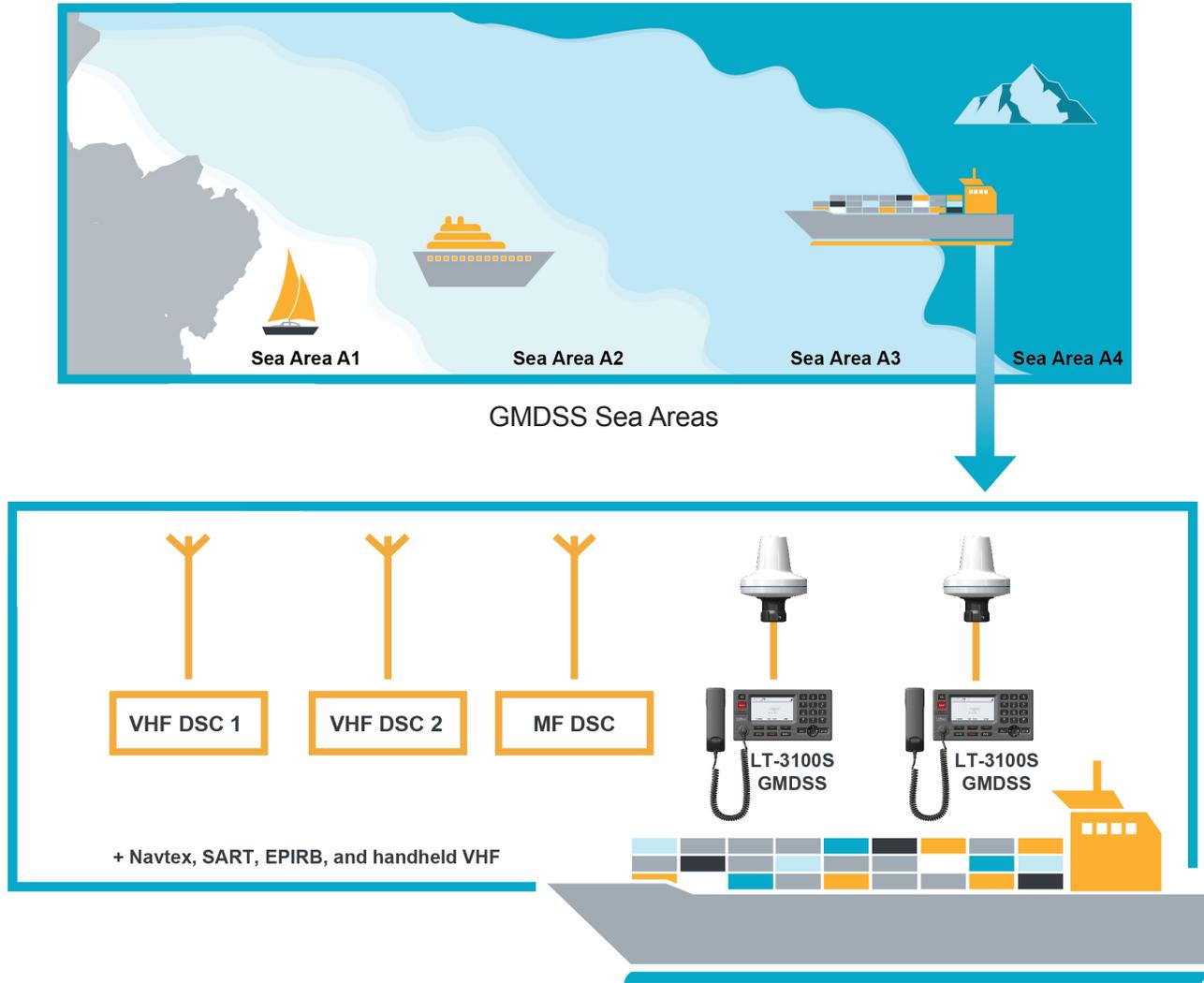
Iridium GMDSS will offer coverage, capability, and cost advantages over the existing option, providing mariners with enhanced safety at sea never before possible. Iridium GMDSS will be the first and only GMDSS solution to offer truly global coverage, including the polar regions, which is outside the reach of the existing GMDSS technology. All Iridium Connected GMDSS terminals will come standard with functionality for all satellite GMDSS services, and will initiate both Distress Alert and Safety Voice quickly with the press of just one button. The initial Iridium Connected GMDSS terminal from Lars Thrane is expected to supply all three satellite GMDSS services at about 25 percent of the cost of the current equipment required to do the same, allowing more vessels to access these life-saving services.

Features	Iridium GMDSS	Inmarsat-C GMDSS
100% Global Coverage	✓	X
GMDSS Features		
Safety Voice	✓	X
Distress Alert and Relay	✓	✓
Maritime Safety Information (MSI)	✓	✓
Non-GMDSS Features		
Voice	✓	X
Standard SMS	✓	X
Feature Versatility	✓✓✓	✓

GMDSS Equipment Requirements

Under the SOLAS convention, all international cargo ships over 300 GRT and all passenger ships are required to be equipped with satellite GMDSS capabilities. Many smaller, non-SOLAS vessels rely on GMDSS and other safety services to allow their crews to feel truly safe anywhere at sea.

Iridium is making its GMDSS service available through low-cost Iridium Connected equipment at a fraction of the cost of today's solution, providing SOLAS and non-SOLAS vessels with access to these critical, life-saving services.



Lars Thrane LT-3100S GMDSS Configuration Example

Only One Communications Company Connects the Entire Globe

Iridium is a satellite communications company that offers voice and data connectivity anywhere in the world.

Powered by a unique constellation of 66 cross-linked Low-Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites, the Iridium® network enables global connections between people, organizations and assets, in real time. Through an expansive partner network of over 400 international technology companies, Iridium is advancing the way enterprises, governments, and individuals communicate every day.

www.iridium.com