

NAVAREA III Coordinator's Assessment Submitted by Spain

The Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina (Hydrographic Office) of Spain serves as Spanish National Coordinator for Coastal Warnings. It also became the NAVAREA III Area Coordinator in 1975. From these double duties we can report the following.

1.- Current status and future plans for MSI dissemination in Spain

There are four operative NAVTEX broadcasting stations (La Coruña, Las Palmas, Tarifa y La Nao), each one assigned to one Rescue Coordination Centre (La Coruña, Las Palmas, Tarifa y Valencia), covering all our coasts and adjacent waters up to 400 nm away. Their scheduled broadcasts (see Annex I) include Notices to Mariners (Coastal Radio Warnings and Weather Reports).

Also, it has been established a Local Computer Network (Mercurio Network) linking up the Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina, the National Rescue Coordination Centre, the Radiomaritime Communication Centres (CCR) of the Telephone Company, and the Rescue Coordination Centres (MRCC) with NAVTEX stations.

2.- Dissemination of Notices to Mariners in Spain

The Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina as the National Coordinator for Radio Navigational Warnings and the NAVAREA III Coordinator, broadcasts information considered as relevant for mariners in accordance to the following:

- 2.1. Coastal Radio Warning by the VHF and OM coastal stations of the Telephone Company, plus the relevant NAVTEX stations for the area.

Also, in case the information affects Atlantic waters and is considered as potentially a subject for a Navarea warning, it is submitted to the NAVAREA II Coordinator (France) for consideration.

- 2.2. Navarea Radio Warning: if it affects the Mediterranean or Black seas and the information is considered to qualify as Navarea warning due to its relevance or to the area it affects. This information is submitted to the land station at Groomhilly (UK) to be broadcasted by SafetyNet over the Inmarsat through the AOR-E

satellite. There are two daily broadcasts by this method, at 1200 and 0000 TU for 42 days maximum (thus complying with Section “a” of annex 4 to the SafetyNet Manual). Also, a summary listing all Navarea warnings still in force is broadcasted by this method on Tuesdays.

Consequently, the number of warnings broadcasted in recent years is as follows (figures in brackets indicate Navarea III warnings from information originated in Spain):

| | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
|------------------------|---------|-----------|----------|
| NAVAREA III | 664(93) | 883 (276) | 722(163) |
| Coastal Radio Warnings | 3144 | 3754 | 3226 |

3.- Broadcasting Radio Notices to Mariners in NAVAREA III area

According to available data, there has been a considerable deployment of NAVTEX stations in the North Coast of the Mediterranean Sea and in the Black Sea, as 23 stations have been established. Considering the special features of the Mediterranean Sea, these facilities provide NAVTEX coverage for the whole NAVAREA III area except for a small part of the Libyan North coast.

Information should be broadcasted:

- 3.1. Via NAVTEX when it is information regarding coastal waters (as stated in item 4.15.b in the Report of the 3rd Meeting of the CPRNW). The Spanish Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina as the NAVAREA III Coordinator cannot monitor these broadcasts.
- 3.2. The NAVAREA III Coordinator, after evaluating the information submitted by National Coordinator will broadcast via Inmarsat as NAVAREA such of as is considered necessary.

4.- Suggested Coordination Guidelines

The actions by the Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina from the date when the GMDSS entered into force are as follows:

- 4.1. As the National Coordinator for Radio Navigational Warnings, we submit all radio warnings considered as Coastal to the NAVTEX station in the relevant area for broadcast. Spain maintains VHF and OM broadcasts for vessels not covered as the NAVAREA II Coordinator for consideration, just as it was done up to now.

4.2. As the NAVAREA III Coordinator:

In the meeting taken place in London, the day 18 May of 2005, remembered to establish contact with all the countries of the sea Mediterranean and Black sea, to establish the areas of responsibility of each one of the stations NAVTEX under their control.

For they are sent it a proposal made by this Co-ordinador Navarea III, to which answered diverse countries making objections, mainly Greece, Italy and Malt, for that that the IMO Navtex Co-ordinating panel has intended that the works concentrate on the Western Mediterranean, and to summon a meeting among the following countries:

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|---|--|
| Algeria. Croacia. France. Greece. Italy | Malt. Morocco. Serbian – Montenegro. Spain. Tunisia. |
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ANNEX I

NAVTEX STATIONS IN SPAIN

| | Position | Range | Schedule | Status |
|------------|--------------|------------|--|-----------|
| LA CORUÑA | 42°54N0916W | 400 millas | 0030 1630 0430 2030 0830 1230 | Operative |
| TARIFA | 36°01N05°34W | 300 millas | 0100 1700 0500 2100 0900 1300 | Operative |
| LAS PALMAS | 28°10N15°25W | 300 millas | 0120 1720 0520 2120 0920 1320 | Operative |
| LA NAO | 38°43N00°09E | 300 millas | 0350 1950 0750 2350 1150 1550 | Operative |