



UNIVERSITY OF RIJEKA
FACULTY OF MARITIME STUDIES

**RESTRICTED OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATE
FOR THE GLOBAL MARITIME DISTRESS
AND SAFETY SYSTEM**

(In accordance with IMO model course 1.26)

Rijeka, March 2004

1. SCOPE OF THE COURSE

This course provides training for every person in charge of performing radio duties on a ship that is required to participate in the GMDSS. This course covers the training recommended in annex 4 to IMO Assembly resolution A.703(17).

The course, also, takes full account of Section A-IV/2 of the STCW Code adopted by the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978, as amended.

2. OBJECTIVES

The participants who successfully complete the course and pass the prescribed exam will be enabled to efficiently operate GMDSS equipment, and to have primary responsibility for radio-communications during distress incidents.

3. COURSE DURATION AND EXAMINATION

The course duration is 4 days (24 hours).

Examination is carried out by the examination board nominated by the Harbour Master's Office in Rijeka.

4. COURSE CERTIFICATE

Documentary evidence specifying the training is issued upon completion of the course and the dedicated certificate is issued after successful completion of the exam.

5. COURSE INTAKE LIMITATIONS

The number of students is limited up to 8 and practical training will be carried out in small groups.

6. TEACHING AIDS AND FACILITIES

Classroom facilities with computers are used for training, as well as following dedicated equipment:

- Fully operational SAILOR GMDSS station,
- Satellite EPIRB (dummy),
- SART (dummy),
- EGC receiver facility,
- Two-way portable VHF radiotelephones, and
- Battery inverter power supply



7. COURSE CONTENTS - SUBJECT AREAS

The course curricula consist of the following topics:

- **Introduction:**
 - The course
- **Principles of Maritime Radio-communications:**
 - Principles and basic features of the maritime mobile service
 - Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)
- **GMDSS Communications System:**
 - Purpose and use of Digital Selective Calling (DSC)
 - Knowledge and practical use of VHF ship station equipment
- **Other GMDSS Equipment:**
 - Emergency Position – Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)
 - Search and Rescue Radar Transponders (SARTs)
 - Maritime Safety Information (MSI) services
- **Distress Alerting:**
 - Search and Rescue (SAR) operation
 - GMDSS Distress, Urgency and Safety communications procedures
- **Miscellaneous Skills and Operational Procedures for General Communications:**
 - Ability to use the English language, written and spoken, for the exchange of communication relevant to the safety of life at sea
 - Obligatory procedures and practices
 - Practical and theoretical knowledge of general communication procedures
- **Assessment and Discussion**