2010 - NOTICE TO SHIPPING #8

NIAGARA REGION
WELLAND CANAL

Vessels Only Permitted To Use Radar Set On A Short Range Of Three Nautical Miles Or Less WhenTransiting The Welland Canal

Analysis by SLSMC maintenance forces of certain malfunctions occurring to the lock / bridge operating control systems indicated that vessels radar may be negatively impacting these control systems therefore the SLSMC has, during the past 18 months, conducted a number of tests to determine the extent of this impact. The results of these tests have shown that radar set on a short range of three nautical miles or less has no impact on lock / bridge operating control systems therefore vessels are only permitted to use radar set on a short range of three nautical miles or less when transiting the Welland Canal. Radar is not to be set on a range greater than three nautical miles as this may cause control systems to malfunction resulting in potential delays.

SLSMC Traffic Control personnel will confirm with each vessel at call-in that vessel radar has been set on a short range of three nautical miles or less.

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

John W. Chalmers
Senior Coordinator, Canal Services
St. Catharines, Ontario
June 30, 2010