

AIS MOB DEVICES IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ALL SKIPPERS - PLEASE READ

- The purpose of this document is to encourage a sound understanding of AIS MOB devices. Specifically in relation to the Fremantle to Exmouth Race and Rally 2023.
- For boats that don't have AIS MOB devices. A sound understanding of AIS MOB devices is still important. It is possible that you will be involved in the rescue of an MOB from another boat.



IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



AIS MOB DEVICES

KEY FACTS

- An AIS MOB device, once activated, transmits an MOB message to AIS equipped vessels within range (approx. 4-5 miles). A built in GPS receiver ensures that an exact location is also sent.
- An MOB symbol is then displayed on a chart plotter or other onboard screens that have an AIS interface.
- The alert will also be received by other vessels within range.
- All AIS MOB devices are identified by a unique MMSI ID that starts with '972'. The unique ID can not be changed.




IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



WHAT DOES AN AIS MOB DEVICE ACTIVATION LOOK LIKE ?

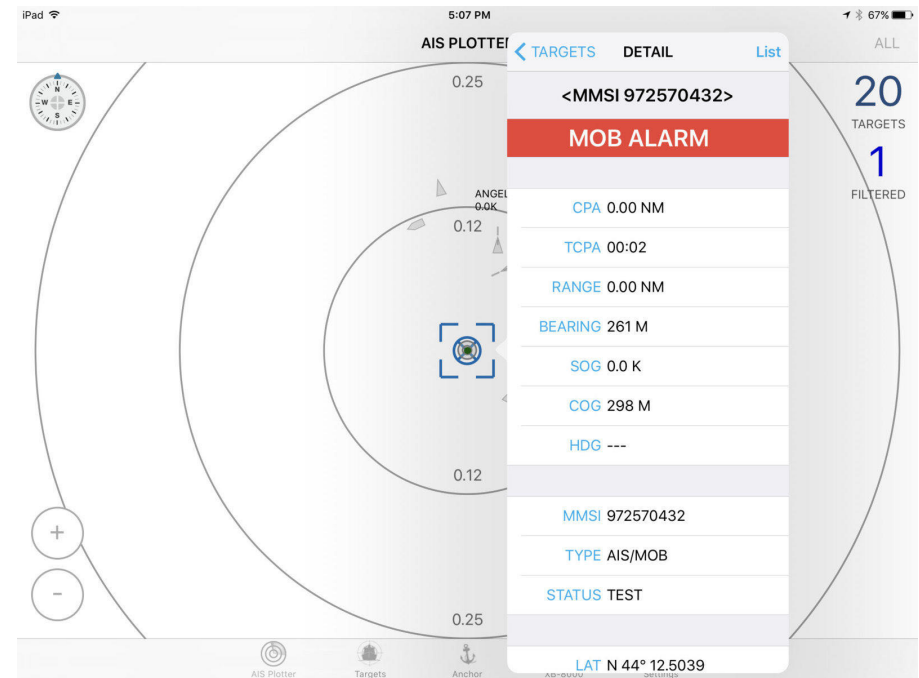
It's imperative to know how your boat's electronics will react to an AIS MOB transmission. Even if your boat's crew are not carrying AIS MOB devices,

This is what AIS MOB alarm test looks like on a Vesper Watchmate XB6000. Note the position of the device transmitting is the same as the vessel.

Different equipment will display the alert differently. For example in most cases, with newer equipment you will see a red circle with a red cross . This is known as an AIS SART Symbol. It can also be referred to as a 972 symbol. There will most likely be an audible alert.

There is no requirement for older AIS receivers, transponders or plotters to be upgraded to acknowledge the 972 symbol. On some older equipment the activation might show a vessel icon or an arrow. There may or may not be audible alert.

Always react to an AIS MOB transmission. Even if your boat's crew are not carrying AIS MOB devices.



IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



TESTING

Ocean Signal recommend that their AIS MOB devices are tested once a year. There is a built in test function which does not actually activate the unit's distress function. It is recommended all crew are involved with the testing process.

WHY TEST ?

- To make sure the device works and check the battery condition.
- To confirm that the boat's AIS transponder receives OK.
- To make sure the crew are familiar with the devices i.e. how to activate, how to deactivate.
- So the crew understand what an activation looks and sounds like, i.e. is the AIS alarm is loud enough to hear.



IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



AIS MOB DEVICES WITH DSC

KEY FACTS

- Some AIS MOB Devices have the ability to send a DSC distress alert to your vessels VHF radio, alerting your crew to the MOB incident.
- The alert will have an audible alarm of increasing volume. It will show the MMSI ID of the device which has been activated (972____) and the devices GPS position.
- The AIS MOB Device must be programmed with your boats MMSI number for the DSC distress alert function to work.
- If the AIS MOB Devices is not programmed with your boats MMSI number the DSC distress alert function will not work.
- It is highly recommended that skippers and crews test the DSC functionality of their AIS MOB devices. A DSC test will appear as a routine individual call. As such it will not show the devices position.



IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



AIS MOB DEVICE

DSC ALL SHIPS DISTRESS ALERT

- In our region an AIS MOB Device with DSC can transmit a DSC all ships distress alert.
- For example: With the Ocean Signal MOB1 a person in the water can hold down the ON key for over 5 seconds to transmit an DSC all ships distress alert. This should only be done in a dire emergency if it is obvious that the persons alert is not being acted on by their own vessel.
- It is important that all boats in fleet understand that they may receive a DSC all ships distress alert and act on it appropriately.



IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



ACCIDENTAL ACTIVATIONS

The possible impact of any accidental activation can be significant in terms of:

- Distraction from supporting non-accidental activations
- Loss of operational focus for competitors and race control
- Placing other vessels at risk searching for the supposed emergency
- Cost and unnecessary deployment of assets and resources

Other possible outcomes of inadvertent activations for racing yachts can have unintended consequences such as:

- Requests for redress
- Impact on race results

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



ACCIDENTAL ACTIVATIONS

BEST PRACTICE - Most AIS MOB devices are designed to be fitted inside a life jacket. They are least likely to activate accidentally when used in this way.

IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENTAL ACTIVATION

- Know how to deactivate the AIS MOB device.
- A "Securite" call must be made on the appropriate marine VHF channels to advise other vessels of the false alarm.
- Notify race control of the false alarm. Race control will require an incident report form to be completed after the event.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Familiarity with rarely-if-ever-used safety gear is key to success. Make sure you and your crew understand AIS MOB devices fully. Refer to your device manual.
- Testing your AIS MOB device's with your boats AIS Transponder is highly recommended.
- For boats that don't have AIS MOB devices. A sound understanding of AIS MOB devices is still important. It is possible that you will be involved in the rescue of an MOB from another boat.
- All AIS MOB devices are identified by a unique MMSI ID that starts with '972'.
- It's imperative to know how your boat's electronics will react to an AIS MOB transmission. Even if your boat's crew are not carrying AIS MOB devices.
- Some AIS MOB devices have the ability to send a DSC distress alert to your vessels VHF radio, alerting your crew to the MOB incident.
- An AIS MOB device with DSC can transmit a DSC all ships distress alert.
- Avoid accidental activations but know what to do if the event of an accidental activation.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

