

## Automatic Identification Systems

Automatic Identification Systems, AIS, will be required to be fitted on all *newships* (i.e., constructed on/after 1 July 2002). AIS provides to shore-side stations the ship's identity, type, position, course, speed and navigational status of the ship's command and engines.

*Newships* are defined as all ships  $\geq 300$  gross tons trading internationally, cargo ships  $\geq 500$  gross tons trading domestically, and passenger ships irrespective of size.

*Existing* passenger ships trading internationally must be fitted with an AIS by 1 July 2003. Tankers (oil, gas and chemical) constructed before 1 July 2002, must be fitted with an AIS by the first survey for safety equipment due after 1 July 2003.

For existing ships other than passenger ships and tankers, a 5-year phase-in period to 1 July 2007 has been adopted as per SOLAS regulation V/19 according to descending categories of gross tonnage as shown below.

<u>Gross Tonnage</u>	<u>Compliance Date</u>
gt $\geq 50000$	1 July 2004
50000 > gt $\geq 10000$	1 July 2005
10000 > gt $\geq 3000$	1 July 2006
3000 > gt $\geq 300$	1 July 2007