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Input paper for the following Committee(s): check as appropriate Purpose of paper:

**□** ARM **X** ENG **□** PAP **X** Input

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Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-3) 3.1

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 …………………………………

Author(s) / Submitter(s) CIRM

On the Effect of Radars on Racons in Busy Harbours

# Summary

This paper is a response from CIRM to IALA Liaison Note SO/CIRM/19-199 of 30 July 2019 on the effect of radars on racons in busy harbours. It provides CIRM’s view of the situation and offers suggestions for next steps.

## Purpose of the document

This is a response to a request for information from IALA.

# Background

CIRM thanks IALA for their Liaison Note SO/CIRM/19-199 of 30 July 2019 on the effect of radars on racons in busy harbours, which provided responses to questions previously raised by CIRM on this issue, and requested CIRM to do the following:

1. Continue to consider ways in which radars can use many discrete frequencies, noting that channels as closely spaced as 250 kHz would give significant relief.
2. Enumerate and describe the modulation methods that are likely to be applied by X-Band solid state radars.
3. Consider how much of the width of the X-Band allocation would be used by individual radars as a practical matter.

# Discussion

CIRM notes the work being done at ETSI TGMARINE led by the German Waterways and Shipping Agency on the development of a standard for solid state radar for inland waterways. CIRM suggests that the studies being done by German Waterways and Shipping Agency in the development of this standard may be useful in answering the questions raised above.

CIRM further notes that in the Liaison Note SO/CIRM/19-199, IALA states that:

It is IALA policy that the use of AIS and other AtoN services may supplement the use of racons but cannot act as direct replacements and that the use of radar in combination with racons forms a critical component of robust navigation in coastal and harbour areas, particularly in poor visibility

CIRM respectfully suggests that this policy be given further consideration as there may be situations where a racon may not be necessary and an AtoN alone may be suitable.

# NEXT STEPS

CIRM recommends that IALA consults ETSI and / or German waterways on the work they are doing regarding new technology / solid state radar standards as this may be useful in answering the questions raised.

CIRM will maintain a watching brief on this issue.

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to:

1. Note the above and take action as appropriate.
2. Keep CIRM up to date on developments on this issue.

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-3)