



Australian Government
Australian Maritime Safety Authority

AMSA's DGPS Survey 2014

Summary of findings

A) Survey respondents

- **Ship type:** 22 different ship types responded, with the main ship types being bulk carriers (28%), cargo ships (17%), container ships (12%), tankers (9%) and passenger ships (9%). Majority (at least three quarters) of these were large commercial ships.
- **Ship flag:** 17 different flag types responded, including Australia (20%), The Netherlands (16%), Hong Kong (15%) and Panama (14%). 78% of these responses were from foreign-flagged ships.
- **Experience in using DGPS:** 75% of respondents reported having more than 5 years of working experience.
- **Manufacturers of DGPS receivers:** 14 different manufacturers of DGPS receivers were reported. Furuno and Japan Radio Company (JRC) of Japan accounted for 72% of the total.

B) Use of DGPS on board

- **Use of AMSA's DGPS:** 17 different (and multiple) uses were reported, with the main uses being for general navigation (81%), pilotage (60%) and monitoring anchor position (56%).
- **Interfacing of GPS units with a DGPS receiver:** 73% of the ships responding had more than one GPS unit interfaced with DGPS. 93% of these ships had other devices (a total of 29 different devices including Radar, Automatic Identification System and Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems) connected to their GPS units.
- **DGPS indication of "unhealthy" GPS satellites:** 40% of ships reported that their units provided indication of 'unhealthy' satellites (14% said they did not know and 46% reported 'no').

C) AMSA's DGPS network

- **Service degradations or outages:** 70% reported no service degradation/outage with AMSA's DGPS service (17% reported they did not know and 13% reported 'yes').
- **Usefulness of AMSA's DGPS service:** An overwhelming 98.5% (129 out of 131 respondents) of respondents replied "Yes" (they found the service useful).
