



## MSN 022

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### VOYAGE DATA RECORDERS – RECOVERY OF DATA

**The aim of this MSN is to recommend to Owners, Masters and crew the importance of being able to save and recover data from voyage data recorders.**

**Most regulations and notices are available on the Isle of Man Government web site: [www.iomshipregistry.com](http://www.iomshipregistry.com) or by contacting [marine.survey@gov.im](mailto:marine.survey@gov.im)**

On vessels fitted with VDR and S-VDR the information stored by this equipment is extensive and can be of great value following an incident and also for training purposes.

Following recent casualty investigations it was found that some Masters and officers were not fully aware of;

1. What data is recorded on the VDR;
2. How long it is recorded for, and
3. How to download, save and replay this data.

The ability to download, save and secure this data is one of the main functions of this equipment and the data recorded is valuable to any investigation following an incident.

We are also aware that if there has been an incident onboard that in the aftermath of dealing with this that the officers and crew may not consider the saving of any data as an immediate priority. When it is remembered then it is often too late, or valuable time is spent referring to manufacturer's manuals to find out how to download and save the data. In fact all the data can be lost if the steps are not correctly followed and in the right sequence.

Companies and Masters should ensure that staff serving on ships with this equipment are aware of the procedures for downloading and storing this information and that they can confidently carry this out when required. This procedure should be prominently displayed on the bridge for ease of reference.

Isle of Man Ship Registry  
April 2007

*Please note - The Isle of Man Ship Registry cannot give Legal Advice. Where this document provides guidance on the law it should not be regarded as definitive. The way the law applies to any particular case can vary according to circumstances - for example, from vessel to vessel. You should consider seeking independent legal advice if you are unsure of your own legal position.*