



# South African Maritime Safety Authority

Ref: SM6/5/2/1

Date: 04 April 2012

## Marine Notice No. 9 of 2012

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### Search and Rescue Radar Transponder (SART) Batteries

TO MASTERS, SHIP OWNERS, MARINE RADIO EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS, THEIR AGENTS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

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#### *Summary*

This marine notice serves to stress the importance of using manufacturer specified SART batteries when batteries are replaced

#### **SART REPLACEMENT BATTERIES**

At an ad-hoc inspection, the smell emanating from the SART caused the Surveyor to call for the unit to be opened and inspected.

This revealed that the batteries used at the scheduled service/replacement were not the type specified by the manufacturer.

This resulted in the batteries leaking, which damaged the casing and if it were to leak into the circuit boards would permanently damage the unit. This would render the SART inoperative.

Service agents must perform every battery replacement with manufacturer specified batteries.

Radio Surveyors will be inspecting SART's to ensure that the correct batteries are fitted.

Where it is found that non-specified battery packs are fitted, this will be notified to the equipment manufacturer.

In this event the Surveyor will note this as a serious defect and the battery pack will have to be changed, with the type specified by the manufacturer, before the vessel is allowed to sail.

**4 April 2012**

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