Marine Notice: 04 / 2009   27th October 2009

Installation of Automatic Identification System (AIS) on board foreign flag vessels working in Bahrain waters.

In accordance with the Legislative Decree No.61 of 2006 and in pursuance of Article 4(sub-paragraph 5, 6 and7), the General Organisation of Sea Ports (GOP) would like to bring to the notice of all foreign flag ships' owners operators, agents and masters operating in Bahrain waters; that foreign flag ships working in Bahrain are required to have an operational AIS on board all self propelled units, latest by 01st June 2010

The Automatic Identification System (AIS) is a device that identifies the vessel and gives its position/ location. The use of AIS contributes to maritime safety, security and protection of the marine environment. The carriage requirement of operational AIS has already entered into force by the International Convention on Safety Of Life At Sea (SOLAS 74).

Khalifa Bin Salman Port (KBSP) is equipped with Vessel Traffic Management Information System (VTMIS), which has in operation radar system that can detect the AIS of every passing vessel and can coordinate and direct timely assistance in case of an emergency.