

General

1. Mariners are informed that the following series of messages will be instituted when so ordered by the Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN): General Messages “ZLMS” Series.
2. “ZLMS” messages addressed to all New Zealand registered merchant ships will be lettered consecutively, commencing with “A”, in order that masters can check that all such messages have been received.
3. Once the lettered series has been started it is most important that all such messages are received, and masters should take the necessary steps to obtain at the first opportunity any that are missing.

Communications

4. The “ZLMS” series of messages will be used to bring into force the particular organisation laid down in *New Zealand Annual Notice to Mariners No. 3A*, or those instructions issued by the Admiralty which are relevant to New Zealand registered shipping.
5. Collective call sign to which general messages will be addressed is as follows:
“ZLMS” – All New Zealand-registered merchant ships.
6. With the advent of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS), most shipping companies utilise systems such as Inmarsat A, B, C or M or private HF systems such as Globe Wireless. While closer to the coast or in port, GSM (Global System for Mobile communications) telephones are in regular use.
7. The RNZN will utilise the GMDSS to alert merchant ships to an area of risk by issuing Navigational Warnings or may use any of the following to issue Special Notices to Merchant Ships:
 - (a) Via Inmarsat-C over SafetyNET (EGC). This will be the primary means of communication.
 - (b) Via Naval, Police or Customs Officers or Harbour Authorities for merchant ships in harbour if shut down on SafetyNET.
 - (c) Via ship owners’ / charterers’ own communication channels.
 - (d) Via Radio and Television.
8. When appropriate New Zealand registered ships will be instructed to comply with *Admiralty Notices to Mariners No. 3* and subsequent amendments contained in *Part VI of Admiralty Weekly Complete Editions*.
9. This does not relieve the master of the responsibility of maintaining a listening watch for safety information broadcast and official radio broadcasts.
10. It is the responsibility of masters to acquaint themselves with the contents of the *Admiralty Notices to Mariners No. 3 (contained herein as Notice 3A)* and subsequent amendments.