

**A Simple Guide on the Use of
Loudhailers & Public Address (PA) Systems on Board of Vessels**

Who Should Observe

Any person who intends to

- use loudhailers and PA systems; or
- allow them to be used

on board of vessels should observe this guide.

The Problem

Noise from hand-held loudhailers or mounted PA systems used on board of vessels has been causing considerable disturbances to nearby residents, especially during the night. Therefore, you should consider **not to use loudhailers and PA systems as far as practicable**.

Try Not to Use Loudhailers and PA Systems

There are situations where you should strictly **avoid the use of loudhailers and PA systems**, such as for chatting or waking up workers on the other vessels. Very often than not, you can use other means of communication, such as

- walkie-talkies/pack sets with headphones; or
- mobile phones.

If You have to Use Loudhailers and PA Systems

If there are **no alternatives** and you have to use loudhailers and PA systems for operational reasons, you should

- lower the volume as far as possible;
- close all doors to engine rooms or compartments to minimize the operational background noise to increase the intelligibility of the messages sent; and
- if appropriate, consider to use smaller loudspeakers for PA systems and locate them closer to the receivers.

The Legislative Control

If you makes or causes to be made any noise at night on a vessel which is a source of annoyance to any person, you will commit an offence under the Noise Control Ordinance and will be liable to a fine of \$10,000.