

ELECTRONIC REPORTING TO THE SWEDISH MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

- **VESSEL CALLS**
- **HAZARDOUS GOODS**
- **VESSELGENERATED WASTE**
- **DECLARATIONS FOR FAIRWAY DUES**
- **ORDERING OF PILOTS**

Updated, 14 June 2007

Introduction

As a result of a number of accidents, the European Union (EU) has identified a need to improve safety for vessels carrying hazardous goods. According to EC directives 2000:59 and 2002:59, all vessels exceeding 300 GT must report a call to a port or anchoring area, hazardous goods cargoes, and vessel-generated waste at least 24 hours prior to arrival. For this purpose, the EU has established a central information system, SafeSeaNet (SSN), to which each member country is to transfer information from national systems. In Sweden, the Swedish Maritime Administration is responsible for compiling this information and has developed an information-processing system for this type of reporting – FartygsRapporteringsSystemet – FRS (Vessel Reporting System) to which information regarding each vessel is to be reported.

A large share of the information to be reported to FRS, coincides with the data that the Swedish Maritime Administration requires in order to be able to bill fairway dues. At the same time, changes in the organization of the Swedish Customs has resulted in a situation where this authority no longer can process fairway declarations on behalf of the Swedish Maritime Administration with the same level of service as earlier. Consequently there was a need to create new routines for the compilation of fairway declarations. For some time there has also been work in progress at the Swedish Maritime Administration in order to improve the efficiency of VTS (Vessel Traffic Service) and Pilotage operations. By making maximum use of the information that must be reported to FRS the Swedish Maritime Administration will achieve a more efficient administration, which will ultimately benefit the shipping industry through reduced costs.

Vessel Reporting System (FRS)

The objective has been to create a system that is user friendly and fulfils various information requirements. It must be possible to provide information to various players such as the Swedish Coast Guard, the Swedish Customs and various ports. Through dialogue with various authorities, the Swedish Maritime Administration is working actively in order to make all information regarding a port call, eventually, be transferred to a single centre. This will happen irrespective of which authority is to use the information.

Representatives of the authorities and shipping industry have participated as members of a reference group during the development phase. Requests are frequently being made by the shipping industry with respect to certain technical changes in the system. The Swedish Maritime Administration will continue the development of the system in order to, as far as possible, comply with requests of the users. The FRS offers following services:

- Vessel notification, which involves the reporting of arrival and departure, as well as information concerning the previous and next

port of call. Reporting may be done via a web connection at the Swedish Maritime Administration's home page www.sjofartsverket.se or using Edifact or XML transfer.

- Reporting procedures for hazardous goods.
- Reporting procedures for vessel-generated waste.

FRS applies to all vessels exceeding 300 GT operating in both domestic and international traffic. In current circumstances, reporting of vessel notification does **not** replace prior notification to the Swedish Customs and Swedish Coast Guard.

Declarations for fairway dues

Declarations for fairway dues are to be submitted electronically via the Swedish Maritime Administration's home page www.sjofartsverket.se. According to the ordinance concerning fairway dues (1997:1121, amended no later than 2004:1136), those who sign declarations for fairway dues assume payment liability for these dues. Since reporting is to be done electronically, payment liability has to be secured through a credit agreement. The customer has to apply for credit - and if granted – a certificate for secure reporting will then be received, after the signing of this agreement.

Customers who have not applied for credit or who have not had their credit applications approved are to pay the dues to the Swedish Maritime Administration's post/bankgiro or bank account before the vessel leaves the port. Reporting is to be made primarily in electronic form. After receiving the declaration, the Swedish Maritime Administration will reply as soon as possible via telefax or telephone with information regarding the fairway dues to be paid and the post/bank giro or bank account to be used for payment. In case the declarations for fairway dues cannot be submitted electronically, information is to be provided on a special form which can be found on the website and also is available from the Swedish Maritime Administration. The filled-in form is to be sent via telefax to VTS in Luleå.

For customers with credit, the declarations for fairway dues are to be submitted no later than one week after the port call. This eliminates the need for preliminary declarations. In those cases in where a definitive declaration cannot be submitted in one week after the call, the customer has to apply for dispensation in each individual case. The possibility of submitting periodic declarations will remain available on the same terms and conditions as previously.

One positive effect of electronic reporting is that the period between the submitted declaration and receipt of invoice in many cases has been shortened. In normal cases it will take 3-10 day from the submission of the declaration to the date on which the invoice is received.

Some of the Swedish Maritime Administration's customers have requested that the invoices be divided up so that the gross-based and goods-based portions of the dues are invoiced separately. To legally secure payment liability for dues, such separation cannot be made. However, the Swedish Maritime Administration have been able to satisfy requests of including separate specifications for the gross-based and goods-based part of the dues.

The Swedish Maritime Administration will continue to develop the system in order to, as far as possible, attempt to meet requests submitted by the users of the system.

In cases in which the technology fails for one reason or other, it is possible to order forms for fairway declarations, which may be submitted via telefax to VTS in Luleå.

Certain customers use other companies for submitting declarations for fairway dues, etc., on their behalf. It is possible to offer certificates also for parties outside one's own company. However, an agreement must be signed with the company to which invoices are to be sent.

Ordering pilots

In connection with vessel notification in FRS, notification must be provided as to whether the vessel will also require a pilot. The information will be used in the VTS for planning purposes, but will not automatically lead to the dispatch of a pilot.

Ordering a pilot is to be made via the Swedish Maritime Administration's website. For ordering pilot, information regarding the vessel and approximate starting time will be obtained from the vessel notification made in FRS. Final order for a pilot must be confirmed no later than 5 hours from the estimated pilotage commencement period. Ordering pilots by electronic means does not entail the removal of previous means of communication.

The system includes a field for comments for both VTS and customers. The possibility to contact a VTS via telephone, telefax or VHF will continue to be available.

Continually updated information

News relating to electronic reporting for FRS, fairway declarations and ordering of pilots is available at the Swedish Maritime Administration's website. Information will be updated continually. An updated XML reference

guide for FRS will be provided as well. The website also includes all other information and forms that may be required for electronic reporting.

Support services

Support services regarding declarations for fairway dues and certificates will during office hours be provided by the Customer Support Group at the Swedish Maritime Administration in Norrköping. They can be reached by the following means:

Phone: +46 (0)11 19 15 40

Fax: +46 (0)11 13 05 16

E-mail: kundstod@sjofartsverket.se

Outside office hours support will be provided by VTS in Luleå. They can be reached by the following means:

Phone: +46 (0)920 25 83 90

Fax: +46 (0)920 25 53 06

E-mail: vtslulea@sjofartsverket.se