

## TECHNICAL BULLETIN

### International VHF Radio Telephone System with 4-digits Channel Support

At the 104<sup>th</sup> session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC104) held in October 2021, MSC.1/Circ.1460/Rev.3 was introduced where it was announced that the implementation of the latest Radio Communication Regulations Appendix No.18, including 4-digit channel, will be effective at the first radio survey on or after January 1, 2024.

#### 1. Implementation Deadline

The first radio survey on or after January 1, 2024

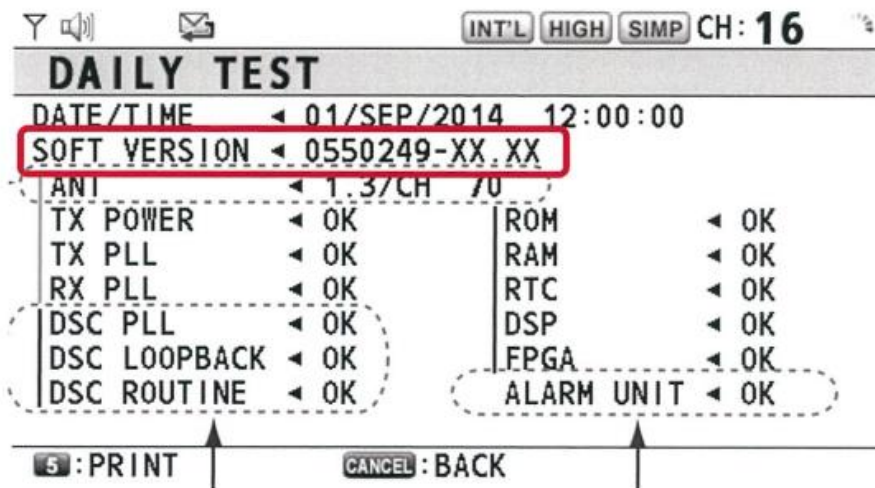
#### 2. Status of Furuno Equipment

Equipment	Status/Action	Note
FM-8500	Software to meet the requirement is not available. Solution is to retrofit with FM-8900S.	Spare parts obsolete since August 2017.
FM-8700		Spare parts obsolete since August 2017.
FM-8800S/D		Spare parts will be phased-out in February 2023.
FM-8900S	Software upgrade is required.	Software version: lower than ver.4.01.
	No software upgrade is required.	Software version: ver.4.01 or higher

#### 3. How to Check the Software Version

Daily-test on FM-8900S (Operation manual Chapter 7-1.)

Rotate the **CHANNEL/ENTER** knob to select [TEST] on the [MENU] screen then push the knob. The daily test starts. After the test is completed, the audio alarm sounds and the screen shown below appears. This screen shows:



#### 4. Attachment

[MSC.1/Circ. 1460/Rev.3](#)

[APPX.2-Marine-VHF-Channel-List](#)

-END-