

Entering a new MMSI number is a significant burden to boaters, in many cases it requires the radio to be removed and sent back to the manufacturer - which is NOT going to be done. The result will be inaccurate numbers and substantially reduced safety, which was the entire idea behind MMSI numbers. Additionally, a major advantage of the DSC system is to enable boaters to contact each other via MMSI number versus call-ups on channel 16 that clog the emergency channel. If you require boaters to change numbers, every other boater who has that number entered in their contact database has to also change the number, which is not going to happen.

It is imperative to make this process simple and easy for boaters, and that means you should NOT require them to change numbers.