

SABATINO PIZZOLANTE

Circular for P & I Clubs

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Correspondents for:

North of England (through Globalpandi), Steamship Mutual, American Club (through Globalpandi), Nordisk Defence Club, British Marine Managers (through Globalpandi), Charterers Mutual Assurance Association Limited, Through Transport Club (TTC), ITIC, Raets P&I and InterCoastal P&I.

***Venezuela to have new time zone (4:30 GMT)
from December 2007***

From 9th December 2007 the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela will have a new time zone, that according to governmental authorities is aimed to improve the Venezuelans' performance on their daily activities. Up to this date, the official time of the country had been five hours ahead of the Greenwich Meridian Time (GMT).

The new time zone of Venezuela will be determined by meridian 66° (Rio Chico meridian), which cross the national territory, passing through the half of the country, so in practice clocks will have to be adjusted by delaying 30 minutes. Consequently, Venezuela has now four hours and a half (4:30 hours) ahead of the international hour established by the Greenwich Meridian (meridian 0°) and not five hours as from 1965.

As per information given by the Minister of People's Power for Science and Technology, Hector Navarro, he explained that by delaying these thirty minutes to the current hour, Venezuelans will wake up with the sunlight further adding "It is a metabolic effect in which the human brain is conditional on the sun's rays", therefore, the new time zone will improve the Venezuelans' performance in their activities, especially those by the children attending to schools who have to wake up in the darkness.

With this change Venezuela joins the list of countries with fractional hour in respect of the meridian, among them, Canada, India, Australia, New Zealand and Iran.

Should you need any assistance or further information regarding the topic stated above, please feel free to contact:

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