



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 382 of 08th December 2016

To: All Surveyors/Auditors

Applicable to flag: All Flags

Adopted Amendments to Mandatory Instruments

Reference: **SOLAS regulation XI-1/2-1**

Adopted Amendments to Mandatory Instruments

- Survey Harmonization – Resolution MSC.409 (97) adopted new SOLAS regulation XI-1/2-1 which revises the SOLAS Safety Construction Renewal Survey period for cargo ships, which are not subject to the Enhanced Survey Program (ESP) Code, so as to be harmonized with the Renewal Survey period under the ESP Code. Accordingly, as of the July 1, 2018 entry into force date, the 3-month survey period to complete the SOLAS Safety Construction Renewal Survey will be expanded to 15 months for cargo ships not subject to the ESP Code. Harmonization of the 6-month SOLAS Safety Construction Intermediate Survey period with the 18-month period provided for in the ESP Code will be addressed under revisions to the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification, HSSC, Guidelines.

- Intact Stability (IS) Code Revisions - Revisions of the mandatory requirements of Part A of the IS Code were adopted by resolutions MSC.413 (97) under SOLAS and by resolution MSC.414(97) under the Load Line Convention. The revisions address:

- ships engaged in anchor handling operations (deploying, recovering and repositioning of anchors and associated mooring lines);

- ships engaged in harbor towing of ships and floating structures within sheltered waters;

- ships engaged in coastal or ocean towing of ships and floating structures outside of sheltered waters;

- ships engaged in lifting operation by means of winches, cranes, a-frames or other lifting devices; and

- ships engaged in escort operation in steering, braking and controlling the assisted ship during ordinary or emergency maneuvering.

At MSC 98, in June 2017, revisions of SOLAS II-I and the Load Convention are set to be adopted which will require new ships engaged in the above operation to comply with the IS Code. New ships will be defined as ships:

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-for which the building contract is placed on or after January 1, 2020; or
-in the absence of a building contract, the keel of which is laid or which are at a similar stage of construction on or after July 1, 2020; or
-regardless of the above, the delivery of which is on or after January 1, 2024.

Additionally, new resolution MSC.415 (97) revises Part B of the IS Code by providing recommended criteria for ships engaged in the above-mentioned operations.

- Foam-type fire extinguishers - Resolution MSC. 409(97) contains amendments to SOLAS II-2, regulation 10.5.1.2.2, which specifies that, for all ships, the 135 liter wheeled foam-type extinguishers is not required in machinery spaces of category A containing oil-fired boilers which are protected by a fixed water-based local application fire extinguishing system. This takes into account that such a fixed system provides for a safety performance level that is equivalent to the 135 liter wheeled foam-type extinguisher.

- IGC Code – Fire Rating of Wheelhouse Windows – Resolution MSC.411 (97) revises paragraph 3.2.5 of the IGC Code so as to remove the fire-rating requirement for clear view screen windows arranged in the wheelhouse that face the cargo area on gas carriers and thereby provides alignment with that required already required for tankers in SOLAS II-2. Taking into account the lack of availability of such windows meeting A-0 fire-rating under the current paragraph 3.2.5 of the IGC Code (resolution MSC.370(93)), which applies to new gas carriers constructed on/after 1 July 2016, the Committee also approved MSC.1/Circ. 1549 which invites Member States to take appropriate action on resolution MSC.411(97) at this time.

- ESP Code Revisions - Resolution MSC.412 (97) revises the Enhanced Survey Program (ESP) Code by clarifying how close-up surveys and thickness measurements are to be performed for oil tankers and bulk carriers.

ABS courtesy

REFERENCES:

- **SOLAS regulation XI-1/2-1**

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