



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 759 of 7th December 2022

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	Onboard Lifting Appliances and Anchor Handling Winches
Reference	New SOLAS Regulations

Onboard Lifting Appliances and Anchor Handling Winches (OLAW)

The Committee agreed to circulate amendments to SOLAS introducing new requirements for onboard lifting appliances and anchor handling winches, including a new SOLAS regulation II-1/3-13, which were approved in principle by MSC 102 and are pending formal adoption.

These regulations apply to both new and *existing ships*. The new regulations prescribe requirements for the design, construction, and installation of lifting appliances and anchor handling winches.

Lifting appliances are defined as all load-handling equipment onboard ships which are used to handle cargo, stores, hold hatch covers or moveable bulkheads, engine-room equipment, cargo hoses, tender boats, and personnel (via cranes).

Anchor handling winches are defined as any winch for the purpose of deploying, recovering and repositioning anchors and mooring lines in subsea operations. This is not to be confused with a ship's windlasses.

All lifting appliances and anchor handling winches, regardless of the installation date, and all loose gear utilized with any lifting appliances and anchor handling winches, are required to be operationally tested, thoroughly examined, inspected, operated, and maintained based on the Guidelines referenced below.

New installations of lifting appliances will be required to meet the requirements of a classification society, and new installations of anchor handling winches to be to the satisfaction of the Administration, considering guidelines for each which have been developed (detailed below). New definitions and terminologies have been added to SOLAS Regulation II-1/2.

The new regulation II-1/3-13 will not apply to lifting appliances used on offshore construction ships

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(i.e. pipe/cable laying, offshore installation vessels), and will not apply to life-saving launching appliances complying with the LSA Code.

Existing lifting appliances and anchor handling winches must undergo a test and thorough examination based on the below guidelines by the first renewal survey after entry into force of these amendments.

The draft amendments will be subject to adoption at MSC 107 (May 2023), with anticipated entry into force on **January 1, 2026**.

The committee approved the following two circulars to supplement the OLAW regulations:

1. Guidelines for Lifting Appliances These guidelines include recommendations for design and testing, as well as guidance on operations and record keeping through a register of lifting appliances to be kept onboard. The Guidelines also address loose gear utilized with lifting appliances and recommend a proof test and thorough annual examination of this equipment. These Guidelines will be subject to final approval at MSC 107 (May 2023), alongside the related amendments to Winches SOLAS Ch. II-1 discussed above.
2. Guidelines for Anchor Handling Similar to the separate guidelines drafted for lifting appliances, these guidelines will provide design, testing, and maintenance requirements for anchor handling winches and associated loose gear. These Guidelines will be subject to final approval at MSC 107 (May 2023), alongside the related amendments to SOLAS Ch. II-1 discussed above.

REFERENCES:

- SOLAS Ch.II-1, MSC 107 (May 2023),

ATTACHMENTS: No

kindest Regards,
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