



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 885 of 5th August 2025

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	Examination of Non-Certified Lifting Appliances
Reference	SOLAS Chapter II-1/3-13.2.4

Unified Interpretation of SOLAS Chapter II-1/3-13.2.4 on Uniform Documentation of Load Testing and Thorough Examination of Non-Certified Lifting Appliances

SOLAS regulation II-2/3-13.2.4 requires existing lifting appliances to be tested and thoroughly examined in accordance with the Guidelines for lifting appliances (MSC.1/Circ.1663). While paragraph 3.3.3 of the guidelines addresses existing lifting appliances with valid certificates of test and thorough examination under another international instrument compliant with SOLAS regulation II-1/3-13.2.4., such as ILO No. 152, existing lifting appliances without valid certificates of test and thorough examination under another international instrument are not specifically addressed by the guidelines.

The Maritime Safety Committee 106th session noted that a factual statement issued by the Administration or a RO could serve as a demonstration of compliance for existing lifting appliances without valid certificates. However, a separate form to document compliance with SOLAS regulation II-1/3-13.2.4 would be needed, as the certification history and responsibility would be different than for the lifting appliances with valid certificates.

The UI provides the following interpretations:

- Compliance with SOLAS regulation II-1/3-13.2.4 could be demonstrated by means of a "factual statement" (also known as a "statement of fact"), issued by the competent person or RO
- The factual statement should confirm that the lifting appliance has been subjected to a load test and subsequently been thoroughly examined, clearly stating the criteria applied
- If the SWL is nominated by the company, the factual statement is to confirm that the test load has been calculated based on that SWL
- The factual statement form should be different from the form used to confirm compliance with SOLAS regulations II-1/3-13.2.1 and II-1/3-13.2.3 but may be attached to the "Register of lifting appliances and cargo handling gear" in appendix 3 of the guidelines to document the history of the test and thorough examination. The annual thorough examination may be documented in the same Cargo Gear Register.

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REFERENCES:

-SOLAS Chapter II-1/3-13.2.4

Attachments: No.

Kindest Regards,
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