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To:	All surveyors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	Water Level Detectors, Ship Security Alert System, LSA
Reference:	SOLAS II-1 , SOLAS XI-2, SOLAS LSA

1. Water Level Detectors – SOLAS II-1

REQUIREMENTS

In order for single-side skin single hold cargo ships, other than bulk carriers, constructed before January 1, 2007, to comply with Regulation 25 / Chapter II-1 of SOLAS, a water level detector shall be fitted in holds. The water level detector shall provide two methods of notification (auditable and visual alarm) in the navigation bridge. The notification shall be given when the water level reaches 0.3 meters in height and a second warning when the water level reaches 15% of the mean depth of the cargo hold, both heights measured from the inner bottom of the hold.

The water level detector should be fitted at the aft part of the cargo hold (more detectors shall be fitted if this is not possible). Resolution MSC.188(79) attached to this Circular as adopted December 3, 2004 presents performance standards for water level detectors together with guidelines on the installation and testing.

APPLICABILITY

This regulation came into force **December 31, 2009** and is applicable to **single-side skin, single hold cargo ships, other than bulk carriers**. This regulation is applicable as follow:

- I. Constructed before January 1, 2007;
- II. Constructed before July 1, 1998 of less than 80 meters in length with a single-side skin single cargo hold below the freeboard deck; and
- III. Constructed before July 1, 1998 of less than 100 meters in length and have more than one cargo hold below the freeboard deck which is not separated by at least one watertight bulkhead up to freeboard deck.

ACT NOW

Surveyors shall take above requirements into consideration in future surveys. Ship-owners with vessels that above requirements apply shall make sure that comply with this regulation and take **immediate action**. For further information and assistance please contact Conarina.

2. Ship Security Alert System – SOLAS XI-2

Regulation 6 of the revised SOLAS Chapter XI-2: Special measures to enhance maritime security, which came into force on July 1, 2009, discuss ship security alert system requirements. According to the regulation all ships shall be provided with a ship security alert system (SSAS).

This is a reminder to all that the test / annual service report of SSAS shall always be available on

Surveyors request and shall be kept on board the vessel. Anyone who does not have SSAS report available on board, please arrange this as *soon as possible*.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

IMO (2009), *"The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)"*. International Maritime Organization, 2009, ISBN: 978-92-801-1505-5

IMO (2002), *"Resolution MSC.136(76) – Performance standards for a ship security alert system"*. International Maritime Organization, 2002.

IMO (2003), *"Resolution MSC.147(77) – Adoption of the revised*

3. LSA - SOLAS LSA

AMENDMENT

The International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code entered into force on July 01, 1998 includes the following amendments:

- I. Resolution MSC.218(82) adopted on July 1, 2008;
- II. Resolution MSC.272(85) adopted on July 1, 2010; and
- III. Resolution MSC.207(81) adopted on July 1, 2010.

Chapter IV/Survival craft of LSA Code discusses general requirements for liferafts. According to Resolution

MSC.293(87) adopted on May 21, 2010, paragraphs 4.2.2.1, 4.2.3.3 and 4.3.3.3 are amended and the figure "75 kg" is replaced by the figure "82.5 kg". Hence, the carrying capacity of rigid and inflatable liferafts is to be calculated with a bigger average mass.

APPLICABILITY

This amendment is applicable for new vessels.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SOLAS (2009), *"SOLAS consolidated edition 2009 of the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, and its Protocol of 1978: articles, annex and certificates"*. International Maritime Organization Publications, 2009, ISBN 978-92-801-1505-5

IMO (2010), *"Resolution MSC.293(87), Adoption of Amendments to the International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code"*. International Maritime Organization, 2010

Kindest Regards,
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