



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 173 of 23rd January 2014

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	2014 SOLAS, MARPOL Amendments Enter Into Force
Reference	Amendments enter into force 01 January 2014

2014 SOLAS, MARPOL Amendments Enter Into Force

A number of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) and the 1988 Load Lines Protocol entered into force or took effect from **1 January 2014**.

The amendments cover:

- passenger ship safety (in relation to safe return to port after a flooding casualty);
- the testing of free-fall lifeboats; minimum safe manning levels;
- prohibition of blending onboard;
- the revised MARPOL Annex III;
- the United States Caribbean Sea Emission Control Area; and
- the Winter Seasonal Zone off the southern tip of Africa.

2012 May SOLAS Amendments

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IMO Convention	Description	CONARINA Circ.
SOLAS Reg.II-1/8-1	To introduce a mandatory requirement for new passenger ships for either onboard stability computers or shore-based support, for the purpose of providing operational information to the Master for safe return to port after a flooding casualty.	166 on 12/30/13
SOLAS Reg.III/20.11.2	Regarding the testing of free-fall lifeboats, to require that the operational testing of free-fall lifeboat release systems shall be performed either by free-fall launch with only the operating crew on board or by a simulated launching.	096 on 12/31/12
SOLAS Ch. V/14	On ships' manning, to require Administrations, for every ship, to establish appropriate minimum safe manning levels following a transparent procedure, taking into account the guidance adopted by IMO (Assembly resolution A.1047(27) on <i>Principles of minimum safe manning</i>); and issue an appropriate minimum safe manning document or equivalent as evidence of the minimum safe manning considered necessary.	167 on 01/18/14
SOLAS Ch. VI/5-2	To prohibit the blending of bulk liquid cargoes during the sea voyage and to prohibit production processes on board ships.	162 on 12/8/13
SOLAS Ch. VII/4	On documents, covering transport information relating to the carriage of dangerous goods in packaged form and the container/vehicle packing certificate	168 on 01/19/14
SOLAS Ch.XI-1/2	On enhanced surveys, to make mandatory the International Code on the Enhanced Program of Inspections during Surveys of Bulk Carriers and Oil Tankers, 2011 (2011 ESP Code, resolution A.1049(27)).	169 on 01/20/14

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2010 October MARPOL Amendments

MARPOL Annex III	Regulations for the prevention of pollution by harmful substances carried by sea in packaged form, to include changes to the Annex to coincide with the next update of the mandatory International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code, specifying that goods should be shipped in accordance with relevant provisions.	170 on 01/21/14
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United States Caribbean ECA now effective

MARPOL Annex VI/14	<p>The United States Caribbean Sea Emission Control Area (SOx, NOx and PM) came into effect, under MARPOL Annex VI, on 1 January 2014, bringing in stricter controls on emissions of sulphur oxide (SOx), nitrogen oxide (NOx) and particulate matter for ships trading in certain waters adjacent to the coasts of Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands.</p> <p>The ECA was designated under MARPOL amendments adopted in July 2011. There are now four three designated ECAs in effect globally: the United States Caribbean Sea ECA and the North American ECA; and the sulphur oxide ECAs in the Baltic Sea area and the North Sea area.</p>	172 on 01/22/14
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Winter Seasonal Zone moved south under amendments to Load Line Protocol

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1988 Protocol to the ICLL, 1966 Reg. 47	To shift the Winter Seasonal Zone off the southern tip of Africa further southward by 50 miles.	173 on 01/24/14
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REFERENCES:

- SOLAS, MARPOL Amendments

ATTACHMENTS: No.

Kindest Regards,

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