



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 230 of 06th November 2014

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	Life Saving Appliances – Pilot Transfer Arrangements
Reference:	SOLAS V, Reg. 23

Life Saving Appliances –Pilot Transfer Arrangements

SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 23, requires ships engaged on voyages in the course of which pilots are likely to be employed to provide equipment and arrangements for pilot transfer operations. The equipment and arrangements must also comply with the requirements of IMO Res. A.889 (21) (as applicable).

New pilot transfer arrangements installed on or after 01 July 2012 will have to comply with A. 1045(27), which revoke A. 889(21).

NOTE: A. 1045(27) requires the following for, which is different than that required by A. 889(21):

"3.2 The length of the accommodation ladder should be sufficient to ensure that its angle of slope does not exceed 45°. In ships with large draft ranges, several pilot ladder hanging positions may be provided, resulting in lesser angles of slope. The accommodation ladder should be at least 600 mm in width."

There are three (3) arrangements, prescribed in SOLAS for pilot transfer operations as follows:

- a) A pilot ladder only
- b) An accommodation ladder (which may or may not also be the "means of embarkation on and disembarkation; if it is, it will need to meet the applicable requirements.
- c) A mechanical pilot hoist (is to be reviewed only if specifically requested). (NOTE: With SOLAS amendments adopted by MSC. 308(88), which enter into force 01 July 2012, a mechanical pilot hoist is NO longer a valid pilot transfer arrangement.)

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