



**TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 785 of 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	<b>Onboard Lifting Appliances</b>
Reference	New SOLAS Regulations

**Onboard Lifting Appliances and Anchor Handling Winches (OLAW)**

The Committee adopted Resolution MSC.530(107) amending the SOLAS Convention to introduce 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 were pending formal adoption.

These regulations apply to both new and *existing ships*. The new regulations will enter into force on *1 January 2026* and 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, taking into account guidelines for each which have been developed (detailed below).

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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 MODUs and offshore construction ships (i.e. pipe/cable laying, offshore installation vessels) and will not apply to lifesaving launching appliances complying June 9, 2023

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.

Circular Title MSC.1/Circ.1663 Guidelines for Lifting Appliances:

- recommendations for design and testing
- guidance on operations and record-keeping through a register of lifting appliances to be kept onboard
- also addresses loose gear utilized with lifting appliances and recommends a proof test and thorough annual examination of this equipment MSC.1/Circ.1662 Guidelines for Anchor Handling Winches
- provides design, testing and maintenance recommendations
- addresses both anchor handling winches and associated loose gear

REFERENCES:

- Resolution MSC.530(107) amending the SOLAS

ATTACHMENTS: No

kindest Regards,  
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