



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 837 of 5th August 2024

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	Towing Equipment - nontankers
Reference	SOLAS Chapter II-1

Amendments to SOLAS Emergency Towing Equipment for Ship Types Other Than Tankers

- New Regulation II-1/3-4 The Committee adopted amendments to SOLAS Chapter II-1 (resolution MSC.549(108)) including amendments to regulation II-1/3-4

The regulation is requiring all new ships other than tankers of not less than 20,000 GT to be fitted with emergency towing arrangements. These amendments will apply to ships other than tankers constructed on or after January 1, 2028, and require ships to be capable of rapid deployment in the absence of main power on the ship to be towed and must facilitate easy connection to the towing ship.

Additionally, the emergency towing arrangements must be of sufficient strength to withstand the size of the ship and the expected forces during bad weather conditions. The design, construction, and prototype testing of these emergency towing arrangements shall be approved by the Administration based on the guidelines developed by the Organization.

Application: All new ships other than tankers of not less than 20,000 GT constructed on or after January 1, 2028.

-Protection of Accommodation and Service Spaces and Control Stations

The MSC 108 adopted amendments to SOLAS Chapter II-2 (resolution MSC.550(108)), Part C, which deals with fire suppression. These changes specifically affect regulation 7, paragraphs 5.2 and 5.5. The adjustment to paragraph 5.2 regarding the requirements for passenger ships carrying more than 36 passengers. It now includes the addition of the word "fire" before the alarm system for spaces with little to no fire risk. The new paragraph 5.5 concerning cargo ships now includes control stations and cargo control rooms as areas requiring protection by detection and alarm in accordance with methods IC, IIC, and IIC.

Application: The amendments to paragraph 5.5 will impact ships constructed on or after January 1,

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2026. Ships constructed before this date shall comply with the previously applicable requirements of paragraph 5.5.

REFERENCES:

- resolution MSC.549(108)

ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,
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