

	<p style="text-align: center;">The Merchant Shipping (Testing of Lifting Appliances) Directive 2012</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Directive 002 - 2012</p>
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The Director of the Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 7, sub-section (3) of the Merchant Shipping Act 2006, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, makes the following Directive.

1 Citation and commencement,

- (1) This Directive may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Testing of Lifting Appliances) Directive 2012 and shall come into force on 1st September 2012.

2 Interpretation,

- (1) In this Directive:

“Antigua and Barbuda ship” means a ship which is registered in accordance with the Antigua and Barbuda Merchant Shipping Act 2006.

“accessory for lifting” means equipment used to attach a load to a lifting appliance.

“competent person” means a person possessing the knowledge or experience necessary for the performance of the duties under this Directive;

“lifting appliance” means any stationary or mobile cargo-handling appliance or other appliance used on board ship for suspending, raising or lowering loads or moving them from one position to another while suspended or supported, but does not include any davit or crane which is part of a ship’s life-saving appliance outfit required by Chapter III of SOLAS and which is subject to the tests and surveys mandated for that equipment.

“loose gear” means any gear by means of which a load can be attached to lifting equipment but which does not form an integral part of either the lifting equipment or the load;

“SOLAS” means the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 19074 and its Protocol of 1988 as amended.

“thorough examination” means a detailed visual examination by a competent person supplemented if necessary by other suitable means or measures in order to arrive at a reliable conclusion as to the safety of the item.

3 Purpose.

- (1) The ILO Convention No. 152 (Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention 1979 addresses the testing and certification of lifting equipment amongst other things and as this is a subject which is of importance to the safety and health of seafarers and is important to the proper functioning of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 this Directive is intended to give effect to the key aspects of the ILO Convention No. 152.

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4 Application.

(1) This Directive applies to all Antigua and Barbuda ships operating commercially.

5 Marking of lifting equipment.

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), any lifting appliance which is, or may be used, for lifting is to be clearly marked to indicate its safe working load;

(2) where the safe working load depends on the configuration of the equipment –

- (i) it is to be clearly marked to indicate its safe working load for each configuration ; or
- (ii) information which clearly indicates its safe working load for each configuration is to be kept with the equipment;

(3) any lifting appliance which is carried on the ship and whose safe working load varies with its operating radius is to be fitted with an accurate indicator, clearly visible to the operator, showing the radius of the load lifting attachment at any time and the safe working load corresponding to that radius;

(4) lifting appliances which are designed for lifting persons are to be appropriately and clearly marked;

(5) lifting appliances which are not designed for lifting persons but which may be so used in error are to be appropriately and clearly marked to the effect that they are not designed for lifting persons;

(6) Each accessory for lifting is to be clearly and legibly marked with its safe working load.

6 Testing


(1) No lifting appliance, accessory for lifting or loose gear is to be used:

- (i) after manufacture or installation, or
- (ii) after any repair or modification which is likely to alter the safe working load or affect the strength or stability of the equipment, without being first suitably tested by a competent person.

(2) No lifting appliance, accessory for lifting or loose gear is to be used unless it has been suitably tested by a competent person within the preceding five years.

(3) Upon the completion of every test of lifting equipment, accessory for lifting or item of loose gear, the equipment, accessory or gear shall be thoroughly examined and certified for use by the person carrying out the test.

(4) In addition to the 5 yearly tests required by sub-paragraph (2) every lifting appliance, accessory for lifting or loose gear shall be thoroughly examined and certified by a competent person at least once in every 12 months.

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7 Records and information

- (1) Every certificate or report of a test or thorough examination issued in accordance with this Directive is to be kept on board the ship for at least 2 years.

- (2) Every ship shall carry a register of all lifting appliances, lifting accessories and items of loose gear in the format recommended by the ILO.

1st August 2012.

Signed by the authority of the Director of the Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping