



# Antigua and Barbuda Maritime Administration

Information Notice  
No. 2014 - 003  
Rev 1  
26 March 2021

**SUBJECT: SOLAS amendments 1 July 2014**

**REFERENCE:**

- a) *Antigua and Barbuda Merchant Shipping Act 2006, as amended*
- b) [SOLAS Circular 2013-009](#) *Fireman's Outfits – SOLAS amendments*
- c) [SOLAS Circular 2013-008](#) *Recovery of Persons from the Water*
- d) *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)*
- e) [UI SC275 Rev1 CLN](#) *Suitable number of spare air cylinders to be provided in connection with drills.*
- f) *ADOMS [Senior Officers Handbook](#)*

**TO:** Ship-owners, operators, masters and officers of Antigua and Barbuda flagged ships.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This Information Notice provides guidance in respect of the most significant SOLAS amendments applicable for existing ships and which entered into force on 1 July 2014.

## 2. SUBJECT

### 1. Firefighter's Outfits:

#### 1. Self-contained compressed air breathing apparatus

1. Revised SOLAS regulation II-2 / 10.10.1, as amended by the resolution MSC.338(91) enters into force on 1 July 2014. It requires that for existing ships (i.e., constructed before 1st July 2014), self-contained compressed air breathing apparatus of fire-fighter's outfits shall comply with paragraph 2.1.2.2 of chapter 3 of the Fire Safety Systems Code not later than 1 July 2019.

2. As per FSS code chapter 3 para. 2.1.2.2, "*compressed air breathing apparatus shall be fitted with an audible alarm and a visual or other device which will alert the user before the volume of the air in the cylinder has been reduced to no less than 200l*".

#### 2. Two-way portable radiotelephone apparatus

1. Revised SOLAS regulation II-2 / 10.10.4, as amended by the resolution MSC.338(91) enters into force on 1 July 2014. It requires that a minimum of two two-way portable radiotelephone apparatuses for each fire party for fire-fighters'

communication shall be carried on board. Those two-way portable radiotelephone apparatuses shall be of an explosion-proof type or intrinsically safe. Existing ships, i.e., ships constructed before 1 July 2014, shall comply with the requirements of this paragraph not later than the first survey after 1 July 2018.

2.The requirement of the number of radio telephones should be based on the number of fire parties indicated in the ship's muster list and not on the number of firefighters' outfits.

2. Instructions, onboard training, and drills

1.New SOLAS regulation II-2 / 15.2.2.6, as amended by the resolution MSC.338(91) enters into force on 1 July 2014. It requires that for all ships (on or after 1 July 2014), an onboard means of recharging breathing apparatus cylinders used during drills shall be provided or a suitable number of spare cylinders shall be carried on board to replace those used.

2.IACS [UI SC275 Rev1 CLN](#) is accepted as appropriate guidance by ADOMS.

3. Recovery of persons from the water

1.New SOLAS regulation III/17-1, that enters into force on 1 July 2014 requires that all ships shall have ship-specific plans and procedures for recovery of persons from the water.

2.The plans and procedures shall identify the equipment intended to be used for recovery purposes and measures to be taken to minimize the risk to shipboard personnel involved in recovery operations.

3.Ships constructed before 1 July 2014 shall comply with this requirement by the first periodical or renewal safety equipment survey of the ship to be carried out after 1 July 2014, whichever comes first.

4.Ro-ro passenger ships which comply with SOLAS regulation III regulation 26.4 shall be deemed to comply with this regulation.

5.[MSC.1/Circ.1447](#) "Guidelines for the Development of Plans and Procedures for the Recovery of Persons from the Water" has been issued to assist owners/operators in preparing ship-specific procedures for the recovery of persons from the water. These Guidelines should be read in conjunction with ([MSC.1/Circ.1182](#)) The Guide to recovery techniques and ([MSC.1/Circ.1185/Rev.1](#)).The Guide for cold water survival.

6.The plans and procedures should be considered as a part of the emergency preparedness plan required by paragraph 8 of part A of the International Safety Management (ISM) Code.

4. Revised Performance Standard for VDR

- 1.If installed on or after 1 July 2014, shall conform to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the resolution MSC.333(90); and
- 2.If installed before 1 July 2014, shall conform to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to resolution A.861(20), as amended by resolution MSC.214(81).
- 3.[IACS UI SC261](#) gives a clarification of Res.MSC.333(90) definition of the "installed on or after 1 July 2014":
- 4.For ships for which the building contract is placed on or after 1 July 2014, or in the absence of the contract, constructed on or after 1 July 2014, "installed on or after 1 July 2014" means any installation on the ship; and
- 5.For ships other than those ships prescribed in (a) above, "installed on or after 1 July 2014" means a contractual delivery date for the equipment or, in the absence of a contractual delivery date, the actual delivery of the equipment to the ship on or after 1 July 2014.

5. Streamlining of SOLAS certificates and records

- 1.The form of certificates and records are modified and replaced by those contained in IMO Resolutions. MSC.338(91), MSC.343(91) and MSC.344(91).
- 2.These amendments have been developed in order to reduce the number of records of equipment and updating the records of equipment (Form P, Form E, Form R and Form C) to reflect the current requirements as appropriate. Among others, the records of equipment have been updated for items related to marine evacuation system, fast rescue boats, anti-exposure suits, child and infant lifejackets and Inmarsat Satellite EPIRB. Concerning the timing of the replacement of existing certificates by the certificates issued after the entry into force of amendments to certificates, new (revised) templates of IMO certificates are to be issued as follows:
  1. Ships should not be subject to a specific survey, as the amendments do not imply new technical requirements. Therefore, the certificates and records can be re-issued at the next renewal survey.
  2. However, upon the owner's request on a case-by-case basis, and subject to the ship's compliance with appropriate requirements, the revised version of these certificates and records may be issued before the expiry date of the certificate / next renewal survey.

6. Protection against noise

1. New Regulation ChII-1 Reg.3-12.2 contains the same provisions of the regulation ChII-1 Reg.36, which will be deleted at the entry into force of SOLAS amendments (i.e., res.MSC.338(91) entry into force 1 July 2014).
2. Therefore, for existing ships and ships delivered before 1 July 2018 and:
3. Ships contracted for construction before 1 July 2014 and the keels of which are laid, or which are at a similar stage of construction on or after 1 January 2009 but before 1 January 2015; or
4. In the absence of a building contract, the keels of which are laid, or which are at a similar stage of construction on or after 1 January 2009 but before 1 January 2015, no new requirements are applicable.

**Issued by**

Antigua and Barbuda  
Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping  
(ADOMS) St. John's