



Antigua and Barbuda Maritime Administration

SOLAS Circular
No. 2013-008
Rev 1
26 April 2021

SUBJECT: Recovery of Persons from the Water

REFERENCE:

- a) *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea SOLAS Chapter III Regulation 17.*
- b) [*IMO MSC Resolution 338\(91\) Amendments to SOLAS*](#)
- c) [*MSC.1 Circ 1447 Guidelines for the development of plans and procedures for recovery of persons from the water*](#)

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

1. PURPOSE

This Circular provides early advice to shipowners and others of the requirements of the Administration in respect of the IMO guidance on plans for recovery of persons from the water.

2. APPLICATION

This Circular applies to all Antigua and Barbuda flagged Ships.

3. BACKGROUND

In November 2012, the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) adopted several amendments to SOLAS. One of these is a new regulation 17-1 to follow the existing regulation 17 in Chapter III.

4. OBLIGATIONS AND GUIDANCE/RESPONSIBILITIES

1. 17-1 Recovery of persons from the water states:
 1. All ships shall have ship-specific plans and procedures for recovery of persons from the water, taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization.* 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. 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.
 2. Ro-ro passenger ships which comply with regulation 26.4 shall be deemed to comply with this regulation.

Refer to the Guidelines for the development of plans and procedures for recovery of persons from the water (MSC.1/Circ.1447)."

2. The target date is the first periodical or renewal Cargo Ship Safety Equipment survey after 1 July 2014. The plans and procedures do not require approval but will be checked as a part of the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment survey.
3. It should be noted that the SOLAS amendment clearly states that the plans and procedures are to be “ship-specific” and it is recommended that owners and managers take early action, taking into account the guidelines, to develop plans and procedures that relate specifically to each ship and to the facilities and equipment on board that ship.

Issued by

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