



Antigua and Barbuda
Maritime Administration

SOLAS Circular
No. 2018 - 001
Rev 1
19 April 2021

SUBJECT: Magnetic Compass(es): Guidelines on Installation, Compensation and drawing up of Deviation Tables

REFERENCE:

- a) *SOLAS Chapter V, Reg. 18 – Approval, Survey and Performance Standards of Navigational Systems and Equipment and Voyage Data Recorder.*
- b) *SOLAS Chapter V, Reg. 19 – Carriage Requirements for Shipborne Navigation Systems and Equipment.*
- c) *IMO Resolution. A. 382(X) – Recommendations on performance standards for Magnetic compasses.*
- d) *ISO 25862:2009, Annex G – Adjustment of Magnetic Compass Deviation.*

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

1. PURPOSE

This Circular provides information on the interpretation, expectations, and requirements of the Administration in respect of the installation, compensation and drawing up of Deviation Tables for magnetic compasses aboard all Antigua and Barbuda internationally registered vessels.

2. APPLICATION

This Circular applies to all Antigua and Barbuda flagged Ships.

3. BACKGROUND

Based on the referenced regulations and in respect of any Antigua and Barbuda registered vessel ADOMS expects the following minimum standard of best practices from the respective crews, operator(s), owners, and recognized organizations.

4. OBLIGATIONS AND GUIDANCE/RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Magnetic Compass Installation

1. As part of the shipborne navigational equipment, any magnetic compass installation will be approved by the vessel's classification society. The RO will approve the installation with respect to compliance to above mentioned regulations, as part of the [Cargo] Ship Safety Equipment Certificate (CSSEC). This also applies to any permanent physical alterations and/or retrofittings. The approval also includes the physical provision(s) for compensation but not the compensation itself.

2. Magnetic Compass Compensation (Adjustment)

1. The magnetic compass(es) must be compensated at least every 24 months (2 years) by a professional adjuster authorized by any of the Administration's ROs.
2. The compass must be adjusted by a qualified compass adjuster, officially authorized/recognized by the administration of his principal place of business, respectively the location of adjustment. Alternatively, the adjuster might also be authorized by any of the ADOMS' authorized RO's.
3. On this occasion, the deviation table should also be drawn up. (see below, No. 3).
4. There is no adjustment/compensation required in between this period, unless any permanent changes to any installations/ship structure, that do or may affect the magnetic compass deviation or it's installation, have occurred.
5. If the latter did occur (or it is at the competent ship's crew – STCW management level - desire) then the Deviation Table (see below, No. III) should be corrected accordingly, providing documentary evidence of the same (e.g., logbook entry and attachment), until a proper compensation can be performed at the next suitable occasion.

3. Deviation Table

1. The deviation table should be drawn up by a professional adjuster. (see above, No. 2.2)
2. Alternatively, it can also be drawn up by competent ship's crew. (S.T.C.W. II/2)

Issued by

Antigua and Barbuda
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