

INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 275

SOLAS – Summary of recent and upcoming new requirements

Application: All shipowners/managers, masters and officers of merchant ships

SOLAS regulation III/17-1 introduced in 1 July 2014 requires:

Ships (other than ro-ro passenger ships) to have ship-specific plans and procedures for the recovery of persons from the water. The requirements apply to new ships constructed (having their keel laid) on or after 1 July, 2014, and to existing ships by the first periodical or renewal safety equipment survey after 1 July, 2014.

SOLAS regulation II-2/20-1 introduced in 1 January 2015 requires:

Vehicle carriers carrying hydrogen or compressed natural gas-fuelled motor vehicles, to be provided with at least two **portable gas detectors**.

SOLAS Chapter XI-1 amended by IMO resolution MSC.380(94) on 1 July 2016 requires:

A **portable atmosphere testing instrument(s)** to be used for enclosed space entry.

SOLAS Appendix amended IMO resolution MSC.380(94) on 1 July 2016:

Format of Cargo Ship Record of Safety Equipment (Form E or C) amended.

SOLAS regulation V/19.2.10 requires:

Tankers which are 3,000 gt and over to be equipped with an Electronic Chart Display and Information System (**ECDIS**), not later than the first survey on or after 1 July 2015

SOLAS regulation V/19.2.10 requires:

Cargo ships other than tankers which are 50,000 gt and over to be equipped with an Electronic Chart Display and Information System (**ECDIS**), not later than the first survey on or after 1 July 2016.

SOLAS regulation V/19.2.10 requires:

Cargo ships other than tankers, $\geq 20,000$ gt but $< 50,000$ gt to be equipped with an Electronic Chart Display and Information System (**ECDIS**), not later than the first survey on or after 1 July 2017.

SOLAS regulation V/19.2.10 requires:

Cargo ships other than tankers, $\geq 10,000$ gt but $< 20,000$ gt to be equipped with an Electronic Chart Display and Information System (**ECDIS**), not later than the first survey on or after 1 July 2018.

SOLAS regulation II-2/10.10.1 amended by IMO resolution MSC.338(91) and the FSS Code requires:

'**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 200 litres.' This requirement applies to ships constructed (keel laid) on or after 1 July 2014. Also, ships constructed (keel laid) before 1 July 2014 shall comply not later than 1 July 2019.

SOLAS regulation II-1/3-10 introduced by IMO resolution MSC.290(87) requires:

Oil tankers and bulk carriers (excluding ore carriers and combination carriers) of 150m in length (load line length) and above shall be provided with a **Ship Construction File** which shall be and kept on board the ship and/or ashore* and updated as appropriate throughout the ship's service. This requirement applies to ships:

1. contracted for construction on or after 1 July 2016; or
2. in the absence of a building contract, constructed (keel laid) on or after 1 July 2017; or
3. delivered on or after 1 July 2020.

* Refer to the Guidelines for the information to be included in a Ship Construction File (MSC.1/Circ.1343).

SOLAS regulation II-2/10.10.4 amended by IMO resolution MSC.338(91) requires:

‘For ships constructed on or after 1 July 2014, a minimum of **two two-way portable radiotelephone apparatus for each fire party for fire-fighter's communication** shall be carried on board. Those two-way portable radiotelephone apparatus shall be of an explosion-proof type or intrinsically safe. Ships constructed before 1 July 2014 shall comply with the requirements of this paragraph not later than the first survey after 1 July 2018.’

SOLAS new Chapter XIV and Polar Code - entering into force on 1 January 2017:

Introduced by IMO resolution MSC.386(94) and IMO resolution MSC.385(94) for vessels operating in polar waters constructed on or after 1 January 2017. Ships constructed before 1 January 2017 shall meet the Polar Code by the first intermediate or renewal survey, after 1 January 2018 (See Information Bulletin No. 276).

SOLAS Chapter II-1 Part F amended and IGF Code - entering into force on 1 January 2017:

Introduced by IMO resolution MSC.392(95) and IMO resolution MSC.391(95) for ships (other than gas carriers) using low-flashpoint fuels contracted for construction on or after 1 January 2017 or converted to use low-flashpoint fuels on or after 1 January 2017.

SOLAS regulations III/3 and III/20 – amendments entering into force on 1 January 2020:

Introduced by IMO resolution MSC.402(96) and IMO resolution MSC.404(96), and which effectively makes mandatory the **Requirements for Maintenance, Thorough Examination, Operational Testing, Overhaul and Repair of Lifeboats and Rescue Boats, Launching Appliances and Release Gear** currently contained in MSC.1/Circ.1206/Rev.1 and MSC.1/Circ.1277, for all ships on or after 1 January 2020.

4th August 2017