Interpretations Concerning Lifeboat Exterior Colours

Amended Guidance

Guidance for Safety Equipment

Reason for Amendment

The International Life-Saving Appliance Code (LSA Code) Reg. 1.2.2.6 specifies the colours of life-saving appliances with the aim of assisting in the detection of such devices at sea. A review of relevant requirements specifying life-saving appliances colour, specifically in regards to lifeboats, was conducted by IACS. As a result, IACS established a new Unified Interpretation (UI) SC233 in February 2009 to clarify both the requirements concerning colour and which parts of lifeboats are applicable; these requirements have already been incorporated into the relevant ClassNK Guidance.

A review of SC233 was conducted by the IMO. As a result, requirements stipulating applicable parts were mitigated and an interpretation concerning lifeboat exterior colours was approved at the 90th Session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC90) held in May 2012. This was circulated as MSC.1/Circ.1423.

Related to the above, IACS adopted UI SC233(Rev.1) in November 2012 to harmonize UI SC233 with MSC.1/Circ.1423 mentioned above.

Therefore, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with MSC.1/Circ.1423 and IACS UI SC233(Rev.1).

Outline of Amendment

Relevant requirements related to the exterior colours of totally enclosed lifeboats and partially enclosed lifeboats were amended.