

Application of BNWAS Requirements to Existing Ships

Amended Guidance

Guidance for Safety Equipment

Reason for Amendment

The ClassNK Rules, in accordance with SOLAS Chapter V, Reg. 19.2.2, require that a Bridge Navigational Watch Alarm System (BNWAS) is to be equipped on ships whose keels are laid on or after 1 July 2011. The BNWAS is designed to monitor the performance of the Officer of the Watch (OOW) while on the bridge and, therefore, is a way to prevent marine accidents such as collision and grounding, etc. which may be caused by OOW incapacitation such as sleeping while on duty, etc. Although the requirements specify that they are also to be gradually applied to existing ships (i.e., ships whose keels were laid before 1 July 2011), SOLAS is somewhat unclear on their application to ships whose keels were laid before 1 July 2002. Because of this, the IMO held discussions on ways to add more clarity to the requirements.

As a result, SOLAS Chapter V, which clarifies the application of the BNWAS requirements to ships whose keels were laid before 1 July 2002 was adopted as MSC.350(92) at the IMO 92nd Maritime Safety Committee (MSC92) held in June 2013.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with MSC.350(92).

Outline of Amendment

Amended requirements related to the implementation date of BNWAS for ships whose keels were laid before 1 July 2002.