

Plans and Procedures for Recovery of Persons from the Water

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for Safety Equipment

Guidance for Safety Equipment

Reason for Amendment

Although SOLAS V/33 specifies that “The master of a ship at sea which is in a position to be able to provide assistance on receiving information from any source that persons are in distress at sea, is bound to proceed with all speed to their assistance,” no rescue methods are clearly specified. Therefore, the subject of rescue methods was discussed by the IMO Maritime Safety Committee at its 91th Session (MSC 91) held in November 2012. The result of these discussions was the establishment of the new regulation SOLAS III/17-1 which requires that all ships have specific plans and procedures for the recovery of persons from the water. The new regulation was adopted by the IMO as Res. MSC.338(91).

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with MSC.338(91).

Outline of Amendment

Stipulated that ship-specific plans and procedures for the recovery of persons from the water are mandatory for all ships.