

Unified Interpretation for Determining Load Lines

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part V

Reason for Amendment

ICLL regulation III/36 specifies that continuous hatchways may be treated as trunks in freeboard computations, and may reduce freeboard by doing so. However, the meaning of “continuous hatchway” as it pertained to regulation III/36 was unclear and IACS considered about the the types of hatchway arrangements which could be regarded as continuous hatchways.

As a result of these discussions, IACS agreed that detached hatchways linked by weathertight steel structures were to be regarded as continuous hatchways. This new interpretation was adopted as Unified Interpretation LL79 in June 2014.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with IACS Unified Interpretation LL79.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Clarified that a single hatchway may be regarded as a “continuous hatchway”.
- (2) Clarified that detached hatchways connected by longitudinal coamings and linked by weathertight decked steel structures in between may be regarded as a “continuous hatchway”. In such cases, the entire enclosed volume of the single hatchways and the weathertight spaces between them may be regarded as the “continuous hatchway”.
- (3) Specified that all hatchway arrangements, excluding the preceding (1) and (2), are not to be regarded as continuous hatchways and each hatchway is to be considered as separated detached trunk.