

Annual Testing of Navigating Equipment

Amended Guidance

Guidance for Safety Equipment

Reason for Amendment

Guidelines for the annual performance test of voyage data recorders (VDR) and simplified voyage data recorders (S-VDR) required by regulation 18.8 of SOLAS V were adopted as MSC.1/Circ.1222 at the 82nd Maritime Safety Committee (MSC82) in November 2006. These guidelines specify that such testing is to be carried out within the time periods designated for annual, periodical or renewal surveys under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC). In addition, the annual performance test of automatic identification systems (AIS) required by regulation 18.9 of SOLAS V is specified in MSC.1/Circ.1252, which was adopted at MSC83 in October 2007, and is also required to be carried out within these same time periods.

Since verification that the aforementioned annual performance tests have been carried out is to take place during the time period for annual, periodical, or renewal surveys, IACS discussed way to further clarify the requirements related to the timing of these tests. As a result of these discussions, IACS adopted UI SC279 in June 2016, which specifies that annual performance tests are to be carried out within the time periods of annual, periodical, or renewal surveys under the HSSC, but are to be completed no later than the date of completion of the survey for endorsement or renewal of the relevant certificate.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with IACS UI SC279.

Outline of Amendment

Amended requirements related to the timing of VDR, S-VDR and AIS annual performance tests.

Amended Requirements

Guidance for Safety Equipment 2.3