

Liquid Level Monitoring Systems for Passenger Ships

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Passenger Ships
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Passenger Ships

Reason for Amendment

SOLAS regulation II-1/22-1 requires passenger ships carrying 36 or more persons to have flooding detection systems, and states that MSC.1/Circ.1291 is the technical guideline for such systems. In addition, flooding detection systems which are provided for passenger ships having a length of 120 m or longer or having three or more main vertical zones are to comply with the Safe Return To Port (SRTP) requirements based on SOLAS regulation II-2/21.4.

MSC.1/Circ.1291 also specifies that liquid level monitoring systems that have indicator panels or are provided with other means to allow the system to be monitored from navigation bridges or safety centres and that are installed in watertight spaces, such as fuel tanks, are not subject to its requirements. IACS, therefore, requested at the 5th Session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC5) held in January 2018 that the IMO clarify whether the liquid level monitoring systems not subject to MSC.1/Circ.1291, but are used as flooding detection systems required by SOLAS still need to meet the SRTP requirements. SDC5, in turn, agreed that above-mentioned liquid level monitoring systems also should comply with the SRTP requirements (SOLAS regulation II-2/21.4).

As a result, IACS prepared a draft IACS unified interpretation based upon the majority view at SDC5. This draft IACS unified interpretation was submitted to SDC6 held in February 2019 and agreed to as a draft MSC circular. The draft MSC circular was submitted to the 101st Session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC101) held in June 2019 and approved as MSC.1/Circ.1539/Rev.1.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended based upon MSC.1/Circ.1539/Rev.1.

Outline of Amendment

Specified that liquid level monitoring systems which are used as, or to replace flooding detection systems need to comply with the SRTP requirements.

Amended Requirements

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Passenger Ships
Part 2 2.1.7, Part 5 2.4.1
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Passenger Ships
Part 5 2.4.1, Annex 7-1 Table 7-1-A1