

Application of Unified Interpretation for Permanent Means of Access

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Parts C and P

Reason for Amendment

Resolution MSC.158(78) provides detail technical provisions for the permanent means of access for oil tankers and bulk carriers required by SOLAS regulation II-1/3-6. IACS has developed IACS Unified Interpretation (UI) SC191 to ensure that IACS members apply the aforementioned SOLAS requirements in a consistent manner. This MSC resolution and UI SC191 have already been incorporated into the ClassNK Rules.

Although UI SC191 requires that the upper ends of the lower vertical ladders be extended so as to allow ship personnel to move safely between adjacent vertical ladders, the scope of application of this requirement was unclear. So, IACS discussed the issue and reached the conclusion that above-mentioned requirement applies to adjacent vertical ladders only at linking platforms and not to cases where structural members (e.g. side stringers) are used to move between adjacent vertical ladders since there is sufficient room for ship personnel to move safely.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended based upon the conclusion agreed to by IACS members.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Specified that the requirement stating that the upper ends of lower vertical ladders are to be extended does not apply in cases where structural members are used to move between adjacent vertical ladders.
- (2) Amended the reference made to the ESP code in the SAMPLE OF SHIP STRUCTURAL ACCESS MANUAL.

Amended Requirements

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships

Part C: C35.2.3, Appendix C3 2.1.1, 2.3

Part P: P9.6.2