

Communications Capabilities of the Lifeboats, etc. of Ships Operating in Polar Waters

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for Radio Installations

Guidance for Radio Installations

Reason for Amendment

The Polar Code stipulates requirements for ships which operate in polar waters (i.e. the Arctic and Antarctic areas), and these requirements are incorporated into the ClassNK Rules.

Since the Polar Code requirements related to the number, performance, etc. of communication equipment required to be provided during evacuation by lifeboat, etc. was unclear, IACS developed an interpretation to clarify such matters. This interpretation was adopted as IACS Unified Interpretation (UI) SC292.

The above-mentioned IACS UI was agreed to at the 6th Session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR6) held in January 2019, and approved as an appendix to MSC.1/Circ.1612 at the 101th Session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 101) held in June 2019.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended based upon IACS UI SC292.

Outline of Amendment

The main contents of this amendment are as follows:

- (1) Amended the wording in the Rules for radio installations.
- (2) Specified the required ready-for-operation states and operating times for mandatory communication equipment intended for use in lifeboats, liferafts and rescue boats.
- (3) Specified the number of installations for mandatory communication equipment intended for use in lifeboats, liferafts and rescue boats.

Amended Requirements

Rules for Radio Installations 5.1

Guidance for Radio Installations Chapter 5