

Application of the SPS Code

Object of Amendment

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part O
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part O

Reason for Amendment

The IMO specifies the Special Purpose Ship Code (SPS Code) as a non-mandatory code applicable to Special Purpose Ships (SPS) with more than 12 Special Personnel (SP) who are engaged in special work on board.

This code requires the same level of safety as the SOLAS Convention by applying requirements which are stricter than those for ordinary cargo ships but less strict than those for passenger ships, taking into consideration that SP tend to be knowledgeable of matters related to ship safety.

In order to ensure the safe navigation of ships considered to be SPS, relevant requirements are amended so that the requirements of the SPS Code can be applied in addition to the requirements specified in Rules and Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part O.

Outline of Amendment

Adds requirements about ships with more than 12 SP specifying special consideration (for example, application of the SPS Code) is to be given in addition to the requirements specified in Rules and Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part O.

Effective Date and Application

Effective date of this draft amendment is 1 January 2026.

An asterisk (*) after the title of a requirement indicates that there is also relevant information in the corresponding Guidance.

ID:DX25-05

Amended-Original Requirements Comparison Table (Application of the SPS Code)

Amended	Original	Remarks
<p align="center">RULES FOR THE SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION OF STEEL SHIP</p> <p align="center">Part O WORK-SHIPS</p> <p align="center">Chapter 1 GENERAL</p> <p>1.1 Application and Equivalency</p> <p>1.1.1 Application* (-1 to -4 are omitted.)</p> <p>5 Ships other than passenger ships of not less than 500 <i>gross tonnage</i> engaged on international voyages (except non self-propelled ships) which have large embarking capacities that include at least one industrial personnel (<i>IP</i>) are subject to Annex 1.1.1-5 “Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (<i>IP</i>)” in addition to this chapter.</p> <p>6 Ships other than passenger ships not engaged on international voyages or of less than 500 <i>gross tonnage</i> but which have large embarking capacities that include at least one <i>IP</i> on board are not subject to Annex 1.1.1-5 “Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (<i>IP</i>)”. However, special consideration is to be paid for such ships in addition to this chapter.</p> <p>7 <u>For ships other than those specified in -5 and -6 above and which have large embarking capacities, special consideration is to be given in addition to this Part. In this context, “large embarking capacities” includes passengers and special personnel.</u></p>	<p align="center">RULES FOR THE SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION OF STEEL SHIP</p> <p align="center">Part O WORK-SHIPS</p> <p align="center">Chapter 1 GENERAL</p> <p>1.1 Application and Equivalency</p> <p>1.1.1 Application* (-1 to -4 are omitted.)</p> <p>5 Ships other than passenger ships of not less than 500 <i>gross tonnage</i> engaged on international voyages (except non self-propelled ships) which have large embarking capacities that include at least one industrial personnel (<i>IP</i>) are subject to Annex 1.1.1-5 “Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (<i>IP</i>)” in addition to this chapter.</p> <p>6 Ships other than passenger ships not engaged on international voyages or of less than 500 <i>gross tonnage</i> but which have large embarking capacities that include at least one <i>IP</i> on board are not subject to Annex 1.1.1-5 “Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (<i>IP</i>)”. However, special consideration is to be paid for such ships in addition to this chapter.</p> <p>(Newly added)</p>	

Amended-Original Requirements Comparison Table (Application of the SPS Code)

Amended	Original	Remarks
<p align="center">GUIDANCE FOR THE SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION OF STEEL SHIP</p> <p align="center">Part O WORK-SHIPS</p> <p align="center">O1 GENERAL</p> <p>O1.1 Application and Equivalency</p> <p>O1.1.1 Application (-1 and -2 are omitted.)</p> <p>3 <u>The “special consideration” referred to in 1.1.1-7, Part O of the Rules means that measures (for example, the application of the SPS Code, risk assessments or other measures for ships which have large embarking capacities) deemed appropriate by the Society are to be taken.</u></p>	<p align="center">GUIDANCE FOR THE SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION OF STEEL SHIP</p> <p align="center">Part O WORK-SHIPS</p> <p align="center">O1 GENERAL</p> <p>O1.1 Application and Equivalency</p> <p>O1.1.1 Application (-1 and -2 are omitted.) (Newly added)</p>	<p>The special consideration (for example, the application of the SPS Code) is to be applied to ships which have large embarking capacities that are not embarked by IP.</p>
EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION		
<p>1. The effective date of the amendments is 1 January 2026.</p>		