
4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

Circular letter No.3278
25 May 2012

To: All IMO Members
Parties to the Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the
Safety of Life at Sea, 1974

Subject: **Amendments to the Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International
Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its ninetieth session (16 to 25 May 2012), approved draft amendments to the Protocol of 1978 relating to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (1978 SOLAS Protocol), as amended, set out in the annex, for circulation with a view to adoption at its ninety-first session (26 to 30 November 2012).

2 The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith, in accordance with article VIII(b)(i) of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, and article II of the 1978 SOLAS Protocol, as appropriate, the text of the aforementioned draft amendments to the 1978 SOLAS Protocol, as amended, set out in the annex, for consideration with a view to adoption by the Committee at its ninety-first session, in accordance with article VIII(b)(iv) of the Convention and article II of the Protocol.

ANNEX

**DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING TO THE
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974,
AS AMENDED**

ANNEX

**MODIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974**

APPENDIX

The existing forms of the Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate and Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate are replaced by the following:

"Form of Safety Construction Certificate for Cargo Ships

CARGO SHIP SAFETY CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

(Official seal)

(State)

Issued under the provisions of the
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE
AT SEA, 1974, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto

under the authority of the Government of

(name of the State)

by _____
(person or organization authorized)

Particulars of ship¹

Name of ship

Distinctive number or letters

Port of registry

Gross tonnage

Deadweight of ship (metric tons)²

IMO Number³

Type of ship⁴

Bulk carrier

Oil tanker

Chemical tanker

Gas carrier

Cargo ship other than any of the above

¹ Alternatively, the particulars of the ship may be placed horizontally in boxes.

² For oil tankers, chemical tankers and gas carriers only.

³ In accordance with IMO ship identification number scheme adopted by the Organization by resolution A.600(15).

⁴ Delete as appropriate.

Date of build:

Date of building contract
Date on which keel was laid or ship was at similar stage of construction
Date of delivery
Date on which work for a conversion or an alteration or modification of a major character
was commenced (where applicable)

All applicable dates shall be completed.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY:

- 1 That the ship has been surveyed in accordance with the requirements of regulation I/10 of the Convention.
- 2 That the survey showed that the condition of the structure, machinery and equipment as defined in the above regulation was satisfactory and the ship complied with the relevant requirements of chapters II-1 and II-2 of the Convention (other than those relating to fire safety systems and appliances and fire control plans).
- 3 That in implementing regulation I/6(b) the Government has instituted:
 - mandatory annual surveys;
 - unscheduled inspection.
- 4 That an Exemption Certificate has/has not⁴ been issued.
- 5 The ship was/was not⁴ subjected to an alternative design and arrangements in pursuance of regulation(s) II-1/55 / II-2/17⁴ of the Convention.
- 6 A Document of approval of alternative design and arrangements for machinery and electrical installations/fire protection⁴ is/is not⁴ appended to this Certificate.

This certificate is valid until

Completion date of the survey on which this certificate is based: (dd/mm/yyyy)

Issued at
(Place of issue of certificate)

.....
(Date of issue) (Signature of authorized official issuing the certificate)

(Seal or stamp of the issuing authority, as appropriate)

⁴ Delete as appropriate.

INTERMEDIATE SURVEY

(for tankers of 10 years of age and over)

This is to certify that at an intermediate survey required by regulation I/10 of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol, this ship was found to comply with relevant provisions of the Convention.

Signed:
(Signature of authorized official)

Place:

Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority, as appropriate)

Signed:
(Signature of authorized official)

Place:

Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority, as appropriate)

MANDATORY ANNUAL SURVEYS OR UNSCHEDULED INSPECTIONS

This is to certify that the ship has been surveyed in accordance with regulation I/6(b) of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol and the relevant recommendations of the Organization⁵.

1st mandatory annual survey^{4,6} Signed:

1st unscheduled inspection⁴ Place:

Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority as appropriate)

2nd mandatory annual survey^{4,6} Signed:

2nd unscheduled inspection⁴ Place:

Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority as appropriate)

⁴ Delete as appropriate.

⁵ Reference is made to the Guidelines on surveys required by the 1978 SOLAS Protocol, the International Bulk Chemical Code and the International Gas Carrier Code adopted by the Organization by resolution A.560(14), as amended by MSC.84(70), and applicable parts of resolution A.1053(27) on the *Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification, 2011*, as may be amended.

⁶ An intermediate survey, but not an unscheduled inspection, may take the place of a mandatory annual survey.

3rd mandatory annual survey^{4,6}

Signed:

3rd unscheduled inspection⁴

Place:

Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority as appropriate)

4th mandatory annual survey^{4,6}

Signed:

4th unscheduled inspection⁴

Place:

Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority as appropriate)

⁴ Delete as appropriate.

⁶ An intermediate survey, but not an unscheduled inspection, may take the place of a mandatory annual survey.

Form of Safety Equipment Certificate for Cargo Ships

CARGO SHIP SAFETY EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATE

This Certificate shall be supplemented by a Record of Equipment for Cargo Ship Safety (Form E)

(Official seal)

(State)

Issued under the provisions of the
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE
AT SEA, 1974, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto

under the authority of the Government of

(name of the State)

by _____
(person or organization authorized)

Particulars of ship¹

Name of ship

Distinctive number or letters

Port of registry

Gross tonnage

Deadweight of ship (metric tons)²

Length of ship (regulation III/3.12)

IMO Number³

Type of ship⁴

Bulk carrier

Oil tanker

Chemical tanker

Gas carrier

Cargo ship other than any of the above

Date on which keel was laid or ship was at a similar stage of construction or,

where applicable, date on which work for a conversion or an alteration

or modification of a major character was commenced

¹ Alternatively, the particulars of the ship may be placed horizontally in boxes.

² For oil tankers, chemical tankers and gas carriers only.

³ In accordance with IMO ship identification number scheme adopted by the Organization by resolution A.600(15).

⁴ Delete as appropriate.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY:

- 1 That the ship has been surveyed in accordance with the requirements of regulation I/8 of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol.
- 2 That the survey showed that:
 - 2.1 the ship complied with the requirements of the Convention as regards fire safety systems and appliances and fire control plans;
 - 2.2 the life-saving appliances and the equipment of the lifeboats, liferafts and rescue boats were provided in accordance with the requirements of the Convention;
 - 2.3 the ship was provided with a line-throwing appliance and radio installations used in life-saving appliances in accordance with the requirements of the Convention;
 - 2.4 the ship complied with the requirements of the Convention as regards shipborne navigational equipment, means of embarkation for pilots and nautical publications;
 - 2.5 the ship was provided with lights, shapes and means of making sound signals and distress signals in accordance with the requirements of the Convention and the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea in force;
 - 2.6 in all other respects the ship complied with the relevant requirements of the Convention;
 - 2.7 the ship was/was not⁴ subjected to an alternative design and arrangements in pursuance of regulation(s) II-2/17 / III/38⁴ of the Convention;
 - 2.8 a Document of approval of alternative design and arrangements for fire protection/ life-saving appliances and arrangements⁴ is/is not⁴ appended to this Certificate.
- 3 That the ship operates in accordance with regulation III/26.1.1.1⁵ within the limits of the trade area
- 4 That in implementing regulation I/6(b) the Government has instituted:
 - mandatory annual surveys;
 - unscheduled inspection.
- 5 That an Exemption Certificate has/has not⁴ been issued.

This certificate is valid until

Completion date of the survey on which this certificate is based: (dd/mm/yyyy)

Issued at
(Place of issue of certificate)

.....
(Date of issue) (Signature of authorized official issuing the certificate)

(Seal or stamp of the issuing authority, as appropriate)

⁴ Delete as appropriate.

⁵ Refer to 1983 amendments to SOLAS (MSC.6(48)) and it is applicable to ships constructed on or after 1 July 1986, but before 1 July 1998 in the case of self-righting partially enclosed lifeboat(s) on board.

INTERMEDIATE SURVEY

(for tankers of 10 years of age and over)

This is to certify that at an intermediate survey required by regulation I/8 of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol, this ship was found to comply with relevant provisions of the Convention.

Signed:
(Signature of authorized official)

Place:

Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority, as appropriate)

MANDATORY ANNUAL SURVEYS OR UNSCHEDULED INSPECTIONS

This is to certify that the ship has been surveyed in accordance with regulation I/6(b) of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol and the relevant recommendations of the Organization⁶.

mandatory annual survey^{4,7} Signed:

unscheduled inspection⁴ Place:

Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority as appropriate)

* * *

Under the provisions of regulation I/14 of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol, the validity of this Certificate is extended until

Signed:

Place:

Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority as appropriate)

⁴ Delete as appropriate.

⁶ Reference is made to the Guidelines on surveys required by the 1978 SOLAS Protocol, the International Bulk Chemical Code and the International Gas Carrier Code adopted by the Organization by resolution A.560(14), as amended by MSC.84(70), and applicable parts of resolution A.1053(27) on the *Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification, 2011*, as may be amended.

⁷ An intermediate survey, but not an unscheduled inspection, may take the place of a mandatory annual survey."