

	SHIPS CLASSIFICATION MALAYSIA SCM CIRCULAR TO SHIPOWNERS, MASTERS, AGENTS AND RELEVANT INTEREST PARTIES			
	QUALITY MATTERS			
	Issue No	02/2012	Issue Date	16 May 2012
TITLE	New SOLAS regulation III/1.5 Guideline for the evaluation and replacement of on load life boat release and retrieval system (RRS) and installation of Fall Preventer Device (FPD)			

A. Several instruments addressing the safety and the improvement of on load Lifeboat Release and Retrieval Systems (**RRS**) were adopted by the MSC 89 as follows:

- √^{f1} Amendments to SOLAS regulation III/1, new paragraph 5 (Resolution MSC. 317(89))
- √^{f1} Amendments to the LSA Code paragraph 4.4.7.6 (Resolution MSC. 320(89))
- √^{f1} Amendments to the Revised recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances (resolution MSC.81(70)), as amended, (Resolution MSC. 321(89))
- √^{f1} Guidelines for evaluation and replacement of lifeboat release and retrieval system (RRS), circular MSC.1/Circ.1392
- √^{f1} Early application of new SOLAS reg.III/1.5, circular MSC.1/Circ.1393

These amendments to SOLAS and to the LSA Code are expected to enter into force on 1st January 2013.

The newly adopted paragraph 5 of SOLAS regulation III/1 requires the replacement of lifeboat on-load release mechanisms not complying with the requirements of the newly amended paragraphs 4.4.7.6.4 to 4.4.7.6.6 of the International Life-Saving Appliances (LSA) Code not later than the first scheduled dry-docking of the ship after 1 July 2014 but, in any case, not later than 1 July 2019. Ships constructed on/after 1 July 2014 shall be fitted with RRS complying with the above standards.

B. STAGES REQUIRED FOR RRS COMPLIANCE WITH LSA CODE 4.4.7.6.4 - 4.4.7.6.5 - 4.4.7.6.6

STAGE 1	SELF ASSESSMENT BY MANUFACTURER	SHOULD START BY 01 JAN 2013. RESULTS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS SENT TO FLAG STATE OR R.O
STAGE 2	DESIGN REVIEW BY FLAG STATE OR R.O	INFORMATION TO BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO MSC.1/Circ 1392
STAGE 3	PERFORMANCE TEST BY MANUFACTURER, FLAG STATE OR R.O TO WITNESS PERFORMANCE TEST	IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPENDIX 1 OF TO MSC.1/Circ 1392 SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY 01 JUL 2013
STAGE 4	NOTIFY AND REPORT COMPLIANCE	FLAG STATE/ R.O NOTIFY MANUFACTURER THE RRS IS APPROVED AS COMPLIANT

STAGE 5	ONE TIME OVERHAUL EXAMINATION ONBOARD (FOR EACH RRS) CONDUCTED BY MANUFACTURER OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE	NOT LATER THAN THE 1 ST DRYDOCKING AFTER 1 ST JULY 2014 OVERHAUL TO BE INACCORDANCE WITH MSC.1/Circ 1206/Rev 1/Anx.1 ON COMPLETION OF THE OVERHAUL EXAMINATION THE RRS SHOULD BE TESTED IN THE PRESENCE OF FLAG STATE OR R.O
STAGE 6	FACTUAL STATEMENT BY MANUFACTURER	IF ALL 5 STEPS HAVE BEEN PASSED
Note: 1) at any stage if the RRS is found to be non compliant, manufacturer may re -assess the RRS after modification. 2) if the RRS is finally found to be non compliant it will have to be replaced with a design compliant with the revised LSA code.		

C. Installation of Fall Preventer device prior to assessment of the RRS

Marine Department Malaysia has instructed that Fall Preventer Devices (FPDs) in accordance with the Guidelines in MSC.1/Circ.1327 shall be fitted on the existing ship lifeboats from 1st January 2013 until the system found compliant to the revise requirement of the LSA Code.

D. Requirements for existing RRS

Ship owners and managers should identify the existing type of RRS fitted on board their vessel and ensure that the FPD is fitted pending the evaluation test of the system.

E. Action by manufacturers.

Manufacturers of the RRS should ensure that their devices are evaluated in accordance with the guidelines in MSC.1/Circ 1392. Non compliant RSS will require modification before being retested or they will need to be replaced with a compliant design.