

GIBRALTAR MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
(Ministry of Maritime Affairs)



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Shipping Guidance Notice – 014

To: Ship Owners, Operators, Masters, Officers and Classification Societies

LAUNCHING APPLIANCES

This Shipping Guidance Notice supplements Shipping Information Notice No. 15 issued in January 2007 and provides guidance in relation to the delay of **(MSC. 1 / Circular 1206)** becoming mandatory. As a consequence of this delay the requirements of **(SOLAS Chapter III Reg.20.11.1/2)** will apply.

A) Launching Appliances (SOLAS Chapter III Reg. 20.11.1)

1. **Annual thorough examinations** shall be carried out based on the guidelines of MSC.1/Circ.1206, Appendix of Annex 1, Paragraph 2.9 and 2.10 as far as applicable. This requirement applies **annually** to all launching appliances.

The thorough examination shall be conducted either by:

- Manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
- Personnel appropriately trained and certified by manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
- Personnel appropriately trained and certified by another manufacturer in the presence of a Surveyor; or
- Shipboard personnel who have received appropriate training in the servicing and testing of launching appliances in the presence of a surveyor.

2. **Annual dynamic load tests** shall be carried out with test weight based on the guidelines of MSC.1/Circ.1206, Appendix of Annex 1, Paragraph 3.1 and 3.3 as far as applicable.

This requirement applies **annually** to all launching appliances with fall and winch including cranes and davits for freefall lifeboats and will be substituted every 5 years by the 5 yearly dynamic loads tests (Please refer to point 3 below). This requirement **does not** apply to launching ramps of freefall lifeboats.

The test shall be conducted either by:

- Manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or

- Personnel appropriately trained and certified by manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
- Personnel appropriately trained and certified by another manufacturer in the presence of a Surveyor; or
- Shipboard personnel who have received appropriate training in the servicing and testing of launching appliances in the presence of a surveyor.

3. **5 Yearly dynamic load tests** shall be carried out with a test weight 1.1 times the total mass of the lifeboat when loaded with its full complement of persons and equipment based on the guidelines of MSC.1/Circ.1206, Appendix of Annex 1, Paragraph 3.2 and 3.3 as far as applicable.

This requirement applies **5-yearly** to all launching appliances with fall and winch including cranes and davits for freefall lifeboats. This requirement **does not** apply to launching ramps of freefall lifeboats.

The test shall be conducted either by:

- Manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
- Personnel appropriately trained and certified by manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
- Personnel appropriately trained and certified by another manufacturer in the presence of a Surveyor; or
- Shipboard personnel who have received appropriate training in the servicing and testing of launching appliances in the presence of a surveyor.

The annual dynamic load tests and the 5-yearly dynamic load tests (Please refer to point 2 above) shall be required to be conducted upon completion of the related annual thorough examination (Please refer to point 1 above).

B) Lifeboat on-load release gear (SOLAS Chapter III Regulation 20.11.2)

1. **Annual thorough examinations** shall be carried out based on the guidelines of MSC.1/Circ.1206, Appendix 1, and Paragraph 2.5.

This requirement applies **annually** to all lifeboat release gear with on-load release mode and will be substituted every 5 years by a 5-yearly overhauling and operational test (see point 3 below). This requirement **does not** apply to release/disengaging gear of freefall lifeboats.

The thorough examination shall be conducted either by:

- Manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
- Personnel appropriately trained and certified by manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
- Personnel appropriately trained and certified by another manufacturer in the presence of a Surveyor; or
- Shipboard personnel who have received appropriate training in the servicing and testing of on-load release gear in the presence of a surveyor.

2. **Annual operational tests** shall be carried out based on the guidelines of MSC.1/Circ.1206, Appendix of Annex 1, Paragraphs 2.6 and 2.7.

This requirement applies **annually** to all lifeboat release gear with on-load release mode and will be substituted every 5 years by the 5-yearly overhauling and operational test (see point 3 below). This requirement **does not** apply to release/disengaging gear of freefall lifeboats.

The test shall be conducted either by:

- Manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
 - Personnel appropriately trained and certified by manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
 - Personnel appropriately trained and certified by another manufacturer in the presence of a Surveyor; or
 - Shipboard personnel who have received appropriate training in the servicing and testing of on-load release gear in the presence of a surveyor.
3. **5-yearly overhauling and operational test** with test weight 1.1 times the total mass of the lifeboat when loaded with its full complement of persons and equipment based on the guidelines of MSC.1/Circ.1206, Appendix of Annex 1, Paragraph 4. This requirement **does not** apply to release/disengaging gear of freefall lifeboats.

The overhauling and test shall be conducted either by:

- Manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
- Personnel appropriately trained and certified by manufacturer without attendance of Surveyor; or
- Personnel appropriately trained and certified by another manufacturer in the presence of a Surveyor; or
- Shipboard personnel who have received appropriate training in the servicing and testing of on-load release gear in the presence of a surveyor.

The annual operational tests mentioned above (Please refer to point 2 above) are required to be conducted upon completion of the related annual thorough examinations (Please refer to point 1 above).

C) Records/Due dates

Records of thorough examinations, overhauling and tests are required as follows:

- i Thorough examination/overhauling/test conducted by the manufacturer:
 - Service/test report witnessed by the manufacturer.
- ii Thorough examination/overhauling/test conducted by shipboard personnel appropriately trained and certified by manufacturer:
 - Service/test report witnessed by shipboard personnel and copy of manufacturer's certificate.
- iii Thorough examination/overhauling/test conducted by shipboard personnel:
 - Service/test report witnessed by the service personnel and attending surveyor
 - Factual statement/Certificate issued by attending surveyor confirming the examination/overhauling/test has been conducted in accordance with the relevant requirements.

D) Due Dates

Launching appliances (Reg. 20.11.1)

Annual thorough examinations – Due on the occasion of the annual/periodical/ SEC survey

Annual dynamic load test – Due on the occasion of the annual/periodical SEC survey.

5th Annual thorough examination – Due on the occasion of the SEC renewal survey.

5-yearly dynamic load tests – Due on the occasion of SEC renewal survey

Lifeboat on-load release gear (Reg. 20.11.2)

Annual thorough examinations– Due on the occasion of the annual/periodical SEC survey.
Annual operational tests – Due on the occasion of the annual/periodical SEC surveys.
5 yearly overhauling and operational tests – Due on the occasion of SEC renewal survey.

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