

	<p align="center">GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA</p> <p align="center">DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SERVICES AND</p> <p align="center">MERCHANT SHIPPING (ADOMS)</p> <p align="center">Circular 02-004-04</p> <p align="center">Interpretation of SOLAS XI-2, reg. 2 and the</p> <p align="center">ISPS-Code, reg. 3 for ships less than</p> <p align="center">500 tons gross tonnage</p>	Document	Circ. 02-004-04
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		Reference	SOLAS XI-2 and the ISPS-Code

Circular letter to:

- 1. All companies having registered their ships under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.**
- 2. All ships registered under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.**
- 3. All port facilities serving ships registered under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.**

Application of SOLAS, XI-2 and the ISPS-Code

1. General

Following an EU-interpretation several EU-countries have established legal provisions for certain ships under 500 tons gross tonnage, not to comply with the requirements of SOLAS, XI-2 and the ISPS-Code.

2. Applicable tonnage

Vessels measured in accordance with Art. 3 (2) (d) of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969 (ITC/TM 69) or the Revised Interim Scheme For Tonnage Measurement For Certain Ships in accordance with IMO Res. A. 494 (XII), having a valid tonnage of less than 500 tons gross tonnage, do not have to comply with the provisions of SOLAS, XI-2 and the ISPS-Code unless:

- .1 such vessels are engaged on international voyages to ports of the United States of America; and/or
- .2 contracting Governments have implemented in their national law that vessels, having a valid tonnage of less than 500 tons gross tonnage, have to comply with the provisions of SOLAS, XI-2 and the ISPS-Code, irrespective of their nationality

3. Compliance with US-Requirements

With reference to para. 2.1 above, the Maritime Administration of Antigua and Barbuda informs that non-SOLAS cargo vessels operating under the Caribbean Cargo Ship Safety Code (CCSSC), having an ITC/TM 69 tonnage above 100 but less than 500 gross tonnage and trading with ports of the United States of America, must either comply with the provisions of the United States Maritime Transportation Security Act 2002 (MTSA), or alternatively, must comply with the provisions of the ISPS-Code.

4. Voluntary compliance

The Maritime Administration of Antigua and Barbuda strongly recommends that vessels engaged on international voyages, which are measured in accordance with Art. 3 (2) (d) of the ITC/TM 69 or IMO Res. A. 494 (XII), having a valid tonnage of less than 500 tons gross tonnage, should comply with the provisions of SOLAS, XI-2 and the ISPS-Code on a voluntary basis.