


| | | | |
|---|--|-----------|---|
|  | GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA | Document | Circ. 02-001-06 |
| | DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SERVICES AND MERCHANT SHIPPING (ADOMS) | Revision | 01 |
| | Circular 02-001-06 | Page | 1 of 2 |
| | Accident with Lifeboats | Reference | 1. SOLAS 74, as amended Reg. III/16 Reg. III/19 and Reg. III/20 Reg. XI/4.3 2. IMO MSC.1/Circ. 1206 3. info letter 001-2007 |
| | | Subject | Measures to prevent Accidents with Lifeboats |

Circular letter to:

**all companies having registered their ships under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.;
all ships registered under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.**

The Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping wish to draw the attention of class societies, companies, masters and officers to the new SOLAS 74, as amended, requirements which enter into force on 01. July 2006.

1. Antigua and Barbuda wishes to draw the attention of manufacturers, shipowners, crews and class societies to the personal injury and loss of life that may follow inadequate attention to the design, construction, maintenance and operation of lifeboats, davits and associated equipment.
2. Relevant industry organizations, manufactures, class societies, shipowners, companies, operators and seafarers at the management level serving on board of vessels flying the flag of Antigua and Barbuda shall ensure that with entry into force on 1st July 2006 the following measures are in place:
 - .1 on-load release equipment used on their ships is in full compliance with the requirements of paragraph 4.4.7.6.2.2 to 4.4.7.6.5 of the LSA Code;
 - .2 all appropriate documentation for the maintenance and adjustment of lifeboats, launching appliances and associated equipment is available on board;
 - .3 personnel undertaking inspections, maintenance and adjustment of lifeboats, launching appliances and associated equipment are fully trained and familiar with these duties;
 - .4 maintenance of lifeboats, launching appliances and associated equipment is carried out in accordance with approved established procedures;
 - .5 lifeboat drills are conducted in accordance with SOLAS regulation III/19.3.3 for the purpose of ensuring that ship's personnel will be able to safely embark and launch the lifeboats in an emergency;
 - .6 the principles of safety and health at work apply to drills as well;

- .7 personnel undertaking maintenance and repair activities are appropriately qualified;
 - .8 hanging-off pennants should only be used for maintenance purposes and not during training exercises;
 - .9 all tests required for the design and approval of life-saving appliances are conducted rigorously according to the guidelines in order to identify and rectify any design faults at an early stage;
 - .10 the equipment is easily accessible for inspections and maintenance and is proven durable in harsh operational conditions, in addition to withstanding prototype tests; and
 - .11 the above issues are addressed through the Safety Management System of the company, as appropriate.
3. Shipowners, when undertaking maintenance and repair activities, shall employ qualified personnel, preferably certified by the manufacturer.
 4. Each lifeboat which has to be manoeuvred at abandon ship drills by its assigned crew at least every three months maybe launched without its crew on board. (iaw SOLAS III/19.3.3.3)
 5. Maintenance, testing and inspections of LSA shall be carried out as laid down in MSC 1/Circ 1206 Annex 1 and SOLAS III/20.3.1.
 6. The results of weekly inspections to LSA which include lifeboat hooks, their attachment to the lifeboat and the on-load release gear system shall be recorded in the log-book. (iaw SOLAS III/20.6)
 7. Lifeboats, except free fall, shall be moved for their weekly inspection without any crewmember on board to an extent to demonstrate satisfactory operation of the launching appliances if weather- and sea conditions permit. (iaw SOLAS III/20.6.3)
 8. Lifeboats, except free fall, shall be turned out for their monthly inspection without any crewmember on board if weather- and sea conditions permit. (iaw SOLAS III/20.7.1)
 9. During annual surveys the launching appliances are subject to through examination. (iaw SOLAS III/20.11)

June 2006

**Department of Marine Services
and Merchant Shipping
Antigua and Barbuda W.I.**

· Am Patentbusch 4 · D-26125 Oldenburg · Germany ·
· Phone ++49 (0) 441 93959 – 0 · Fax: ++49 (0) 441 93959 – 29 ·
E-mail: info@antiguamarine.com

· Corner Popeshead & Dickenson Bay Street ·
· P.O. Box 1394 · St. John's · Antigua W.I. ·
· Phone ++1 268 462 1273 or 462 4353 · Fax: ++1 268 462 4358 ·
E-mail: MarineServ@candw.ag