



Marine Notice No. 04 of 2024

Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers, Yachtsmen and Seafarers

IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) Adopted Amendments SOLAS Chapters II-1, III, IV and V

The Department of Transport would like to highlight amendments to Chapters II-1, III, IV and V of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, which specifies minimum standards for the construction, equipment and operation of ships, compatible with their safety. For further details please see the following MSC Resolutions:

- [MSC. 474 \(102\)](#), which sets out amendments to Chapter II-1 of SOLAS related to Construction - Structure, Subdivision and Stability, Machinery and Electrical Installations.
- [MSC.482\(103\)](#) which details amendments to Chapter II-1 focusing on Stability Management and Chapter III on Life-Saving Appliances.
- [MSC. 496 \(105\)](#) providing details on amendments to Chapter II-1 on Electrical Installations, Chapter III on Life-Saving Appliances, new text to replace the existing Chapter IV on Radiocommunications and amendments to Chapter V on Safety of Navigation.
- [MSC. 497 \(105\)](#) replacing the forms for Passenger Ship Safety Certificate, the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate, the Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate and the Cargo Ship Safety Certificate.

The SOLAS amendments have entered into force on **1 January 2024** and companies and mariners are requested to ensure that they comply with the relevant regulations and procedures.

Revised SOLAS Chapter IV.

In relation to SOLAS Chapter IV, the text has been replaced in its entirety and includes the use of generic terms for some Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) sub systems, consolidation of provisions for VHF radio telephone apparatus and SART (Search and Rescue Transponder), changes in sea area coverage, and the removal of the NBDP (Narrow Band Direct Printing) radio telex for MF/HF radio installations.

Revised IMO Circular - Harmonization of GMDSS requirements for radio installations on board SOLAS ships.

[COMSAR.1 Circ.32 Rev.2](#) -This revised circular provides important additional guidance. The revision GMDSS aims to expand the use of modern digital communication systems and remove redundant systems.

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