

December, 2013

L/B Safety: SOLAS Reg. III/20.11.2.4 – New regulation into force

With reference to other circulars on L/B safety we take the opportunity to issue a reminder on SOLAS regulation III/20.11.2.4 regarding the testing of free-fall lifeboats.

Said regulation was adopted during the 90th session of the MSC of May 2012, and its entry into force is forthcoming as of **1 January 2014**.

The regulation requires that the operational testing of free-fall lifeboat release systems shall be performed

- either by free-fall launch with only the operating crew on board,
- or by a simulated launching with only the operating crew on board or by a simulated launching carried out based on guidelines developed by the Organization.

Because the Faroese administration has not developed additional national requirements, we refer you to the enclosed MSC.1/Circ.1206/Rev.1, to which said regulation refers.

Shipowners and management companies of ships with free-fall lifeboats on board are requested to take due note of the regulation.

Enclosures: MSC.1/Circ.1206/Rev.1.

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