



香港商船資訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Amendments to the International Life-Saving Appliance Code (LSA Code) and the Revised Recommendation on Testing of Life-Saving Appliances (Resolution MSC.81(70))

To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters, Classification Societies and Shipbuilders

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate IMO resolutions MSC.535(107) and MSC.544(107) and to advise the parties concerned of the amendments to the International Life-Saving Appliance Code (the “LSA Code”) and the associated amendments to the *Revised Recommendation on Testing of Life-Saving Appliances* by virtue of resolution MSC.81(70). The amendments to the LSA Code will enter into force on 1 January 2026.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at its 107th session adopted the resolutions MSC.535(107) and MSC.544(107) on 8 June 2023 to amend the LSA Code and the associated amendments to the *Revised Recommendation on Testing of Life-Saving Appliances* (the “Revised Recommendation”) by virtue of resolution MSC.81(70).

2. Resolution MSC.535(107) introduces new paragraphs 4.6.6 and 4.6.7 of Chapter IV of the LSA Code which provides performance requirements for the ventilation of totally enclosed lifeboats. The ventilation means may be of either a powered or passive type but shall satisfy the ventilation capacity of 5 m³/hour per person for the total number of persons the lifeboat is permitted to accommodate.

3. In view of the above-mentioned change in Chapter IV of the amended LSA Code and the Revised Recommendation in Resolution MSC.81(70) with regard to ventilation test procedure for totally enclosed lifeboats, Resolution MSC.544(107) is therefore modified accordingly. As such, the relevant provisions under paragraphs 6.10, 6.14, 7.4, 7.5 and 7.6 of Part 1 of the annex to Resolution MSC.81(70) are amended to align with the associated amendments to the LSA Code as a result of the aforesaid Resolution MSC.535(107).

4. The amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2026 and are to be applied to totally enclosed lifeboats installed on or after 1 January 2029, where the expression *installed on or after 1 January 2029*, means:

- (a) for ships for which the building contract is placed on or after 1 January 2029, or in the absence of the contract, constructed on or after 1 January 2029, any installation on the ship; or
- (b) for ships other than those ships prescribed in (a) above, a contractual delivery date for the equipment or, in the absence of a contractual delivery date, the actual delivery of the equipment to the ship on or after 1 January 2029.

5. The details of amendments as annexed to the resolutions MSC.535(107) and MSC.544(107) can be found on the website of Marine Department (<https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>) as attachments to this Note.

6. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters, classification societies and shipbuilders of Hong Kong registered ships are reminded to apply the above amendments when testing life-saving appliances.

Marine Department
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