



To: DEPUTY REGISTRARS, SHIP OWNERS/ISM OPERATORS, RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS/RECOGNIZED SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS, GENERAL SAFETY INSPECTORS

Reference: Entry Into Force of the International Code of Safety for Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (IP Code)

Issuance Date: 19 February 2024

MSN Superseded: N/A
ISSUE DATE: **15 February 2024**

Revision No.: N/A

REFERENCE

1. Resolution MSC.521 (106) "Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974". Adoption of new SOLAS Chapter XV "Safety Measures for Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel".
2. Resolution MSC.527 (106) "International Code of Safety for Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (IP Code)".
3. Resolution MSC.418(97) "Interim Recommendations on the Safe Carriage of more than 12 Industrial Personnel on Board Vessels engaged on International Voyages."

PURPOSE

The purpose of this notice is to provide guidance to Shipowners/ISM Operators, Recognized Organizations, Recognized Security Organizations and General Safety Inspectors concerning the entry into force (1 July 2024) of the new Chapter XV of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS 74) and the International Code of Safety for Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (IP Code).

The aim is to provide safety standards for ships that carry industrial personnel themselves and address specific risks of maritime operations within the offshore and energy sectors, such as personnel transfer operations. Such personnel may be engaged in the construction, maintenance, decommissioning, operation, or servicing of offshore facilities, such as windfarms, as well as offshore oil and gas installations, aquaculture, ocean mining or similar activities.



APPLICATION

1. Unless expressly provided otherwise, the SOLAS Chapter XV applies to cargo ships and high-speed craft, of 500 gross tonnage and upwards, **constructed on or after 1 July 2024** which carry more than 12 industrial personnel.
2. Cargo ships **constructed before 1 July 2024**, authorized by the Administration to carry more than 12 industrial personnel in accordance with the recommendations developed by the Organization (Resolution MSC.418(97)), shall comply with regulations III/1, III/2 (except for paragraph 2.1.7), IV/7 and IV/8 of the IP Code by the third periodical or first renewal survey, whichever occurs first, after 1 July 2024.
3. High-speed cargo craft **constructed before 1 July 2024**, authorized by the Administration to carry more than 12 industrial personnel in accordance with the recommendations developed by the Organization (Resolution MSC.418(97)), shall comply with regulations III/1, III/2 (except for paragraph 2.1.7), V/7 and V/8 of the IP Code by the third periodical or first renewal surveys, whichever occurs first, after 1 July 2024.
4. Cargo ships and high-speed cargo craft, **irrespective of the date of construction**, which, prior to the 1 July 2024, have not been authorized by the Administration to carry more than 12 industrial personnel based on the recommendations developed by the Organization (Resolution MSC.418(97)), shall comply and be certified in accordance with this chapter and the IP Code prior to the carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel on board.

DEFINITION

“Industrial Personnel (IP)” means, all persons transported or accommodated on board for the purpose of offshore industrial activities performed on board other ships and/or offshore facilities.

“IP Code” means, the International Code of Safety for Ships Carrying Industrial personnel, as adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee by resolution MSC.527(106), as may be amended.

“Offshore industrial activities”, mean the construction, maintenance, decommissioning, operation, or servicing of offshore facilities related, but not limited to, exploration and exploitation of resources by the renewable or hydrocarbon energy sectors, aquaculture, ocean mining or similar activities.



BACKGROUND

International Maritime Organization (IMO) conventions (i.e., SOLAS, MARPOL, etc.) have several rules and regulations which prescribe requirement on “Type Approvals”.

Type-Approvals or certificate of conformity is granted to a product that meets a minimum set of regulatory, technical and safety requirements. Generally, type-approval is required before a product is allowed to be sold or installed onboard in a particular country, so the requirements for a given product will vary around the world. Processes and certification known as type-approval are generally called homologation, or some cognate expression. This information is provided in this Merchant Marine Notice.

SURVEY AND CERTIFICATION

Every ship to which the IP Code applies shall have on board a valid Industrial Personnel Safety Certificate. The format of this certificate shall be in compliance with the model given by the IP Code that includes a Record of Equipment for the Industrial Personnel Safety Certificate (Form P) as a supplement to the certificate.

The Industrial Personnel Safety Certificate and the Record of Equipment shall be issued in addition to the relevant certificate required in SOLAS regulation XV/5.1.1 and after an initial or renewal survey to a ship which complies with the requirements of the IP Code. The validity, survey dates and endorsements shall be harmonized with the relevant SOLAS certificates in accordance with the provisions of SOLAS regulation I/14 or X/3.2, as appropriate.

IMMARBE has decided to delegate the issuance of the Industrial Personnel Safety Certificate and the Record of Equipment for the Industrial Personnel Safety Certificate (Form IP) to its authorized Recognized Organization in accordance with SOLAS regulation XI-1/1.

FEES

Applicable fee will be in accordance with the Merchant Shipping Notice [MSN-0039r1](#) and [MMN-16-001](#).



Merchant Marine Notice MMN-24-002

ACTIONS REQUESTED

This Administration would like to urge all Shipowners/ISM Operators, Recognized Organizations, Recognized Security Organizations and General Safety Inspectors to take note of the contents of this Notice and to ensure its provisions are enforced.

IMMARBE anticipates your cooperation and assistance.

The Notice was issued in Belize city, Belize 19 February 2024

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IMMARBE

Any queries related to the Notice should be directed to technicalservices@immarbe.com