



# Veritas Register of Shipping Ltd.

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## Circular Letter 003/2023

Date: 06.09.2023

Attn.: Authorized Surveyors, Ship Owners, Operators, Managers

Subject: AMENDMENTS TO MARPOL ANNEX I (Watertight doors)

In accordance with IMO Resolution MEPC.343(78) AMENDMENTS TO THE ANNEX OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973, AS MODIFIED BY THE PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING THERETO, (Amendments to MARPOL Annex I) Watertight doors, CHAPTER 4 – REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CARGO AREA OF OIL TANKERS, PART A CONSTRUCTION, Regulation 28 – Subdivision and Damage Stability was revised accordingly and the Paragraph 3.1 was replaced. The amendments are entering into the force from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2024.

The new **Paragraph 3.1** is mentioned below:

“The final waterline, taking into account sinkage, heel and trim, shall be below the lower edge of any opening through which progressive flooding may take place. Such openings shall include air pipes and those which are closed by means of weathertight doors or hatch covers and may exclude those openings closed by means of watertight manhole covers and flush scuttles, small watertight cargo tank hatch covers which maintain the high integrity of the deck, remotely operated sliding watertight doors, hinged watertight access doors with open/closed indication locally and at the navigation bridge, of the quick-acting or single-action type that are normally closed at sea, hinged watertight doors that are permanently closed at sea, and sidescuttles of the non-opening type.”

Kindly confirm receipt and acknowledgment of Circular Letter 003/2023 by signing and returning to the Head Office Receipt Form.

Kindly be guided accordingly.  
Yours faithfully,  
Kristina Melikyan  
Chief Executive Officer

