



# Veritas Register of Shipping Ltd.

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## Circular Letter 007/2023

Date: 06.09.2023

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

Subject: Towing and Mooring Equipment (SOLAS, Ch. II-1, Reg. 3-8).

Reference: - IMO RES.MSC.474(102) AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974;

- MSC.1/Circ.1175 The Guidance on shipboard towing and mooring equipment for ships constructed on or after 1 January 2007 but before 1 January 2024;
- MSC.1/Circ.1175/Rev.1 The Guidance on shipboard towing and mooring equipment for ships constructed on or after 1 January 2024;
- MSC.1/Circ.1619 The Guidelines on the design of mooring arrangements and the selection of appropriate mooring equipment and fittings for safe mooring;
- MSC.1/Circ.1620 The Guidelines for inspection and maintenance of mooring equipment including lines.

The Maritime Safety Committee, at its 102nd session (4 to 11 November 2020), having considered a proposal by the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction, at its sixth session (4 to 8 February 2019), and recognizing the importance of design of mooring arrangements and the selection of appropriate mooring equipment and fittings for safe mooring operations, with a view to ensuring a uniform approach towards the application of the provisions of SOLAS regulation II-1/3-8, as amended by resolution MSC.474(102), which is expected to become effective on 1 January 2024.

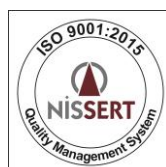
The amended **Regulation II-1/3-8 – Towing and mooring equipment** is mentioned below:

Regulation 3-8 is replaced by the following:

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1. Paragraphs 4 to 6 of this regulation apply to ships constructed on or after 1 January 2007.
2. Paragraphs 7 and 8 of this regulation only apply to ships:
  - .1 for which the building contract is placed on or after 1 January 2024; or
  - .2 in the absence of a building contract, the keel of which is laid or which is at a similar stage of construction on or after 1 July 2024; or
  - .3 the delivery of which is on or after 1 January 2027.
3. This regulation does not apply to towing arrangements provided in accordance with regulation 3-4.
4. Ships shall be provided with arrangements, equipment and fittings of sufficient safe working load to enable the safe conduct of all towing and mooring operations associated with the normal operation of the ship.
5. Arrangements, equipment and fittings provided in accordance with paragraph 4 above shall meet the appropriate requirements of the Administration or an organization recognized by the Administration under regulation I/6.\*

\* Refer to the *Guidance on shipboard towing and mooring equipment (MSC.1/Circ.1175)* for ships constructed on or after 1 January 2007 but before 1 January 2024 and the *Guidance on shipboard towing and mooring equipment (MSC.1/Circ.1175/Rev.1)* for ships constructed on or after 1 January 2024.



6. Each fitting or item of equipment provided under this regulation shall be clearly marked with any limitations associated with its safe operation, taking into account the strength of the supporting ship's structure and its attachment to it.

7. For ships of 3,000 gross tonnage and above, the mooring arrangement shall be designed, and the mooring equipment including lines shall be selected, in order to ensure occupational safety and safe mooring of the ship, based on the guidelines developed by the Organization.† Ship-specific information shall be provided and kept on board.‡

† Refer to the *Guidelines on the design of mooring arrangements and the selection of appropriate mooring equipment and fittings for safe mooring (MSC.1/Circ.1619)*.

‡ Refer to *towing and mooring arrangement plan in the Guidelines on the design of mooring arrangements and the selection of appropriate mooring equipment and fittings for safe mooring (MSC.1/Circ.1619)*.

8. Ships of less than 3,000 gross tonnage should comply with the requirement in paragraph 7 above as far as reasonably practicable, or with applicable national standards of the Administration.

9. For all ships, mooring equipment, including lines, shall be inspected and maintained in a suitable condition for their intended purposes.§

§ Refer to the *Guidelines for inspection and maintenance of mooring equipment including lines (MSC.1/Circ.1620)*.

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Kindly confirm receipt and acknowledgment of Circular Letter 007/2023 by signing and returning to the Head Office Receipt Form.

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

