

MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE

Issued by the Director General's Office of Merchant Shipping, Sri Lanka

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NOTICE TO MASTERS, NAVIGATING OFFICERS, SHIP OWNERS, MANAGERS,
OPERATORS, SHIPPING AGENTS, CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES, TRAINING INSTITUTES
AND I.S.M. DESIGNATED PERSONS

BRIDGE NAVIGATION WATCH ALARM SYSTEM (BNWAS) (RESOLUTION MSC.282(86))

Several amendments to the SOLAS 74 Regulations were adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee at the IMO on 5 June 2009 by Resolution MSC.282(86). These amendments will come into force on 1 January 2011.

One of the amendments is the introduction of Regulation V/19.2.2.3 which requires passenger ships irrespective of their gross tonnage and cargo ships of 150 gross tonnage and upwards, regardless of their dates of construction to be fitted with a Bridge Navigation Watch Alarm System (BNWAS).

Ships constructed on or after 1 July 2011 are required to be fitted with BNWAS before they are put into service. For ships constructed before 1 July 2011, BNWAS is required to be fitted in accordance with the following time table:

- Passenger ships Not later than first survey* after 1 July 2012.
- Cargo ships of 3,000 grt and upwards Not later than first survey* after 1 July 2012.
- Cargo ships of 500 grt and upwards but less than 3,000 grt Not later than first survey* after 1 July 2013.
- Cargo ships of 150 grt and upwards but less than 500 grt Not later than first survey* after 1 July 2014

(*Means the first annual survey, the first periodical survey or the first renewal survey in respect of the Passenger Ship Safety Certificate in the case of passenger ships, or the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate in the case of cargo ships.)

According to SOLAS Regulation V/18.2 (Approval, surveys and performance standards of navigational systems and equipment and voyage data recorder), the BNWAS fitted is required to conform to performance standards adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee.

Performance standards for BNWAS have been established and were adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee on 20 May 2002 by Resolution MSC.128(75) (see attachment).

All BNWAS, including those fitted prior to 1 July 2011, are required to be type-approved to conform fully with the performance standards for BNWAS specified in MSC.128(75). Those fitted prior to 1 July 2011 which are not compliant to MSC.128(75) shall be replaced accordingly upon the phase-in dates in the table above. MSC 128 (75) and MSC 282 (86) are attached for easy reference

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Director General's Office of Merchant Shipping Ministry of Ports and Aviation 43/89, Bristol Paradise Building York Street, Colombo 1,

Sri Lanka. Fax: +9411-2435160