



ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

CIRCULAR N° SOL 037

Amendment to SOLAS Regulation III/7 (RES. MSC.201 (81) - Infant Lifejackets on passenger ships

**TO: SHIPOWNERS, SHIPS' OPERATORS AND MANAGERS, MASTERS
SURVEYORS TO FLAG STATE ADMINISTRATION
RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

APPLICABLE TO: All passenger ships
ENTRY INTO FORCE: 1st July 2010

Monaco, 14th September 2009.

A revision to Regulation III/7 of the SOLAS Convention, which concerns personal life-saving appliances, will require all passenger ships to provide lifejackets for 'infants' on board, and suitable accessories to allow adult life jackets to be used by all persons, regardless of size.

The requirements of infant lifejackets and the requirements of lifejackets for a large build person were newly added as follows:

- for passenger ships on voyages less than 24 hours, a number of infant lifejackets equal to at least 2.5% of the number of passengers on board should be provided
- for passenger ships on voyages 24 hours or greater, infant lifejackets should be provided for each infant on board.
- if the adult lifejackets provided are not designed to fit persons weighing up to 140 kg and with a chest girth of up to 1,750 mm, a sufficient number of suitable accessories should be available on board to allow them to be secured to such persons

This regulation will be applicable as from 1st July 2010.

It is recommended that owners and operators of passenger ships develop a procedure to ensure this new requirement can be complied with on all voyages. It is further recommended that owners and operators contact lifejacket manufacturers regarding the availability of infant lifejackets and accessories.