



TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

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MARINE CIRCULAR

MC-8/2005/12/2b

07/2017

FOR: Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Ship Officers, Classification Societies

SUBJECT: SAFETY CHECKLIST FOR SOLAS 74/78 REQUIREMENTS

DEFINITIONS:

The following abbreviations stand for:

- “FSI” – Flag State Inspection
- “PSC” – Port State Control
- “SOLAS” – International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, as amended

The term “Administration” shall mean the Tuvalu Ship Registry.

PURPOSE:

This marine circular provides a reproducible copy of this Safety Checklist to facilitate the inspection of safety equipment as required by the SOLAS 74, Chapter III, Regulation 20.6 and 20.7 and other parts of SOLAS. The Administration strongly recommends the use of the format contained in Appendix I of this circular or a company sponsored planned maintenance system.

REFERENCES:

- (a) Tuvalu Marine Circular MC-8/2005/12/2a
- (b) SOLAS 2004, Consolidated Edition, As Amended through Resolution MSC.154(78)
- (c) International Life-Saving Appliances (LSA Code)
- (d) International Code for Fire Safety Systems (FSS Code)

APPLICATION:

This marine circular applies to all Masters of Tuvalu flagged vessels as it is their responsibility to ensure that all safety equipment, including lifesaving and fire-fighting gear, is always in good condition and available for immediate use. Masters should also be aware that PSC inspections are focusing greater attention to the condition of lifesaving and fire-fighting equipment, based on the fact that these areas continue to generate the greatest number of deficiencies on the average for all vessels inspected by PSC authorities.

CONTENTS:

1. General

- 1.1. A rope ladder or other approved device should be provided as an embarkation means for life rafts required by SOLAS Regulation III/31.1.4.
- 1.2. Safety equipment that is marked with a date of manufacture rather than an expiry date should be renewed four years after the date of manufacture.

1.3. MSC Circular 1047 (Annex II) contains guidelines for the monthly inspection of immersion suits and anti-exposure suits. It is recommended that these guidelines be used in the absence of inspection guidelines by the equipment manufacturer.

2. Responsibility of Master

Immediately upon assuming command, the Master should appoint one of his officers as the designated safety officer to make the weekly and monthly checks of equipment as required by SOLAS. If used, the form is to be signed by the designated safety officer and reviewed by the Master at the end of each month.

3. Record Retention and Availability

3.1. The signed copy should be retained in the Master/safety officer's file and should be made available to our FSI inspector when he/she boards the vessel to carry out the FSI inspection. The Master can also show this report to any PSC inspector or official that may visit his vessel as evidence of maintenance of equipment.

3.2. The master should send the original to the owner/operator at convenient intervals to assure shore side management that all of the equipment is being maintained in serviceable condition and no delays should be expected due to PSC intervention with respect to any of these items.

4. Corrective Action

Should corrective action require company assistance, such as furnishing spare parts, new equipment or arranging shoreside labour, the master should immediately requisition an order to maintain operational readiness at all times and to avoid being cited for any deficiencies. We are fully confident that owners will respond to and cooperate with the master by taking immediate corrective action.

5. Benefits

5.1. If each master adopts a positive attitude and insists that his designated safety officer conduct these examinations in an effective manner, all equipment can be maintained defect-free and the master, with complete confidence, can welcome inspection of this equipment by any inspection body.

5.2. The master may also find the checklist to be valuable reference material for utilization during general safety meetings held with the officers and crew.

6. Log Book Entry

The date of these inspections shall be entered into the Log Book as required by SOLAS.

7. Form SOLAS Safety Checklist

Form SOLAS can be downloaded at www.tvship.com under DOWNLOADS / FORMS / Flag State Inspection Forms & related Safety Checklists.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar
Tuvalu Ship Registry