



# GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE MANUALS FOR LIFEBOAT SYSTEMS

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**Applicable to:** This circular should be brought to the attention of shipowners, shipmanagers, operators, masters and officers of Singapore-registered vessels.

1. The International Maritime Organization, following the 81st Session of the Maritime Safety Committee (10 to 19 May 2006), approved MSC.1/Circ.1205, GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE MANUALS FOR LIFEBOAT SYSTEMS, taking into account the number of casualties with lifeboat systems and the need to improve operation and maintenance manuals of lifeboat systems.

2. The guidelines set out in MSC.1/Circ.1205 (**Attachment A**) aims to encourage the development of user-friendly shipboard manuals for the operation and maintenance of lifeboat systems including launching appliances, to help seafarers familiarize with these systems on board their ships. These guidelines are applicable to manuals to be carried on ships for use by seafarers, and accordingly the section on weekly and monthly inspection and maintenance does not refer to detailed maintenance / repair work. Detailed maintenance / repair work should be conducted by the manufacturer's representative or a person appropriately trained and certified by the manufacturer for the work in accordance to MSC.1/Circ.1206.

3. MSC.1/Circ.1205 is not applicable to the emergency instructions required by SOLAS regulation III/8, operating instructions such as posters and signs required by SOLAS regulation III/9, or other brief instructions for operation of lifeboats.

4. Shipowners, shipmanagers, operators, masters and officers of Singapore registered ships are requested to take note of the above and advised to develop user-friendly operation and maintenance manuals for lifeboat systems, to help seafarers familiarize with these systems. Any queries regarding this circular should be addressed to Mr. Chua Kie Hian (Tel: 6375 6212).

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[Attachment A](#)