



Notification Number: 2016/537/UK

The Merchant Shipping (Bridge Visibility) (Small Passenger Ships) Regulations

Date received : 11/10/2016

End of Standstill : 12/01/2017

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2016) 03122

Directive (EU) 2015/1535

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pieteikums - Pranešimas - Bejelerítés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlásenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2016/0537/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késésket - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Não inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201603122.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2016 0537 UK EN 11-10-2016 UK NOTIF

2. Member State

UK

3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
Europe Directorate
1 Victoria Street
London, SW1H 0ET

Email: technicalregulations@bis.gsi.gov.uk

3. Originating Department

Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Spring Place



105 Commercial Rd
Southampton
SO15 1EG

4. Notification Number

2016/0537/UK - T20T

5. Title

The Merchant Shipping (Bridge Visibility) (Small Passenger Ships) Regulations

6. Products Concerned

These Regulations detail the domestic requirements relating to Bridge Visibility in tidal waters for UK passenger ships of Classes IV, V, VI and VI (A) of less than 55 metres in length which are not certificated under Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ships) (Safety Code for UK Categorised Waters) Regulations 2010, Statutory Instrument S.I. 2010/680, and its related Merchant Shipping Notice (MSN) 1823: The Safety Code for Passenger Ships Operating Solely on UK Categorised Waters.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

These Regulations apply to passenger ships under 55 metres in length which are engaged in domestic voyages in tidal waters. The Regulations implement the recommendations of the Marine Accident Investigation Branch in relation to bridge visibility on passenger ships, set out in their Report into the loss of "the Marchioness". The provisions contained in these Regulations were previously contained in The Merchant Shipping (Bridge Visibility) (Small Passenger Ships) Regulations 2005 (S.I. 2005/2286), which are to be revoked and replaced by these Regulations.

The 2005 Regulations made provision for bridge visibility on passenger ships of under 45 metres in length; these Regulations extend that scope and apply to passenger ships of under 55 metres in length. Ships of 55 metres or more in length are regulated by the Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Regulations 2002 (S.I. 2002/1473) in accordance with the requirements of the SOLAS Convention. These Regulations define the length of a ship to mean its "length overall", which is the concept used in the SOLAS Convention.

These Regulations require ships to be so constructed that the helmsman has good visibility over an arc of 360 degrees of the horizontal plane. These Regulations clarify that the sight lines required for this 'all round visibility' cannot rely upon mirrors, cameras or other visual aids. These Regulations also amend the definition of "enclosed passenger deck" to clarify that the spaces with the means to fit any type of side or end screen to the deck or any other part of the ship are considered to be enclosed. Where existing ships cannot fully meet the requirements for all round visibility a dedicated lookout must be posted to cover the area which is obscured from the steering position.

These Regulations clarify that an existing non-passenger ship converted to a passenger ship becomes a new vessel under these Regulations with date of conversion being taken as date of construction. Provision is made in the Regulations for exemptions, penalties and detention.



9. Brief Statement of Grounds

It has been necessary to amend the 2005 Bridge Visibility regulations to close a regulatory lacuna that has occurred for vessels between 45m registered length (under which the 2005 regulations applied) and 55m length overall (at which SOLAS bridge visibility requirements apply). The amendment also provides clarification with a more detailed definition of what constitutes an enclosed passenger space and that a line of sight must be direct and not rely on mirrors or other visual aids.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

No Basic Text exists

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

A full Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared as it is considered that these Regulations make minor amendments which have little impact on business.

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade

SPS aspect

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade

European Commission

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