



Luxembourg, 1 February 2021

**Circular CAM 01/2021 updated version 17 March 2021**

**O/Ref. :** RB/112662

**Subject:** **Revision of Immersion Suits Exemptions**

**To :** All Accredited Shipping Managers, ship owners, ship operators, RO's, Designated Persons Ashore of Luxembourg flagged ships and Flag State Inspectors.

Reference is made to SOLAS 74 Chapter III Regulation 32.3, as amended.

In accordance with the provisions of SOLAS 74 Chapter III Regulation 32.3.2 cargo ships, other than bulk carriers (as defined in SOLAS 74 Chapter IX Regulation 1), may be exempted from the requirement of Regulation 32.3.2 when such ships are constantly engaged on voyages within "warm climates".

Following consideration of the guidance provided in "MSC/Circ 1046 – Guidelines for the Assessment of Thermal Protection", this administration has defined the following sea areas for the scope of application of the exemption provision:

For SOLAS vessels (cargo vessels):

The vessel (other than bulk carrier) is constantly engaged in the warm water climate of the sea area between the parallels of latitude 30° North and 30° South (as by MSC/Circ.1046) **within 200nm from shore.**

For Large Commercial Yachts:

The Yacht is constantly engaged in the warm water climate of the sea area between the parallels of latitude 30° North and 30° South (as by MSC/Circ.1046) **within 60nm from shore.**

**OR**

The Yacht is constantly engaged in the Mediterranean Sea **within 60nm from shore.**

Applicable are, as by SOLAS 74 Chapter III Regulation 32.3, as amended:

An immersion suit of an appropriate size, complying with the requirements of section 2.3 of the LSA Code shall be provided for every person on board the ship.

If a ship has any watch or work stations which are located remotely from the place or places where immersion suits are normally stowed, including remotely located survival craft carried in accordance with regulation SOLAS Chapter III Regulation 31.1.4 additional immersion suits of an appropriate size shall be provided at these locations for the number of persons normally on watch or working at those locations at any time.

Immersion suits shall be so placed as to be readily accessible and their position shall be plainly indicated.

The immersion suits required by this regulation may be used to comply with the requirements of regulation SOLAS Chapter III Regulation 7.3.

The monthly inspection of immersion suits required by SOLAS 1974 Chapter III Regulation 20.7 as amended, must be carried out in accordance with the Guidelines approved by MSC/Circ.1047.

A periodic testing of the immersion suits, in accordance with the attached Guidelines approved by MSC/Circ.1114, must be carried at intervals not exceeding three years. Immersion suits of ten years of age must be tested by the next safety equipment survey. After this ten years period, the testing intervals must be carried out more frequently but may not exceed two years.

Adequate dissemination of this information within your company and to the Masters of Luxembourg flagged vessels and yachts should be ensured.



(s) Robert BIWER  
Government Commissioner  
for maritime affairs