



Luxembourg, 29 February 2024

Circular CAM 01/2024

O/Ref.: AS/117330

Subject: **New SOLAS Chapter XV and International Code of Safety for Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (IP Code)**

To: All Accredited Shipping Managers, Ship Owners, Ship Operators, Designated Persons Ashore, Masters, Recognized Organizations and Flag State Inspectors

Reference: (a) SOLAS 74, as amended, Chapter XV, Resolution MSC.521(106)
(b) IP Code, Resolution MSC.527(106)
(c) Interim Recommendations on the safe carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel on board vessels engaged on international voyages, Resolution MSC.418(97)

On 1 July 2024, the new SOLAS Chapter XV and International Code of Safety for Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (IP Code) will enter into force. The IP Code will be mandatory for all cargo ships and high-speed craft of 500 gross tonnage and upwards, carrying more than 12 industrial personnel, special personnel and passengers combined, and operating on international voyages. All ships to which the IP Code applies will need to have on board an Industrial Personnel Safety Certificate (IP Certificate).

Vessels which (prior 1 July 2024) are authorized to carry more than 12 industrial personnel

Grandfathering provisions for obtaining IP certification are provided in the SOLAS Chapter XV, Regulation 3 for existing cargo ships and high-speed cargo craft which prior 1 July 2024 have been authorized by the Luxembourg Maritime Administration to carry more than 12 industrial personnel based on the Resolution MSC.418(97). The applicable parts of the IP Code (identified in SOLAS Chapter VX, Regulations 3.2 and 3.3) are as follows:

1. **For cargo ships:** Vessels shall comply with the requirements **III/1, III/2 (except for paragraph 2.1.7), IV/7 and IV/8 of the IP Code** by the first intermediate or renewal survey, whichever occurs first, after 1 July 2024
2. **For high-speed cargo craft:** Vessels shall comply with the requirements **III/1, III/2 (except for paragraph 2.1.7), V/7 and V/8 of the IP Code** by the third periodical or first renewal survey, whichever occurs first, after 1 July 2024

Vessels which (prior 1 July 2024) have NOT been authorized to carry more than 12 industrial personnel as well as new cargo ships and high-speed craft

Vessels which currently (and within 1 July 2024) do not operate with more than 12 industrial personnel, and which have no specific authorization from the Luxembourg Maritime Administration to do so, will not be covered by the grandfathering provisions, and hence they have to be certified with respect to the complete IP Code to obtain an Industrial Personnel Safety Certificate.

New cargo ships and high-speed craft constructed on or after 1 July 2024 also will have to comply with IP Code requirements in full in order to obtain IP Certificate.

Evidence of compliance with MSC.418(97)

Documentary evidence of compliance with MSC.418(97) will be necessary in order to benefit from the grandfathering provisions of the SOLAS Chapter XV, Regulation 3. Due to this fact, ship owners and ship operators of vessels under Luxembourg flag carrying more than 12 industrial personnel are kindly requested to seek authorization in accordance with Resolution MSC.418(97) prior the IP Code comes into force. All such applications shall be made through the vessel's Recognized Organization (RO) and the Luxembourg Maritime Administration shall be informed accordingly in each case. The RO, having granted the authorization in agreement with the Luxembourg Maritime Administration, shall issue a Statement of Compliance (SoC).

Should any other standard than what is specified in MSC.418(97) be considered, a prior approval from the Luxembourg Maritime Administration shall be sought and same shall be also reflected the SoC.

In this matter, you are kindly requested to get in contact with the vessels' ROs in order to start the certification process.

You are kindly requested to ensure adequate dissemination of this information within your company and to the relevant Luxembourg flagged vessels.



(s) André Hansen
Government Commissioner
for maritime affairs