



Luxembourg, 04 November 2025

Circular CAM 08/2025

O/Ref.: SG/119687

Subject: **Implementation of SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-13 – Lifting appliances and anchor handling winches**

To: All Accredited Shipping Managers, ship owners, ship operators, Designated Persons Ashore, Masters of Luxembourg flagged ships, Recognised Organisations and Flag State Inspectors

Purpose

The purpose of the present circular is to provide guidance to all Accredited Shipping Managers, ship owners, ship operators, Designated Persons Ashore, Masters of Luxembourg flagged ships, Recognised Organisations and Flag State Inspectors on the application of the requirements of new SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-13, in respect of lifting appliances and anchor handling winches for vessels falling within the scope of this regulation.

Background

At its 107th session, the Maritime Safety Committee adopted Resolution MSC.532(107), introducing SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-13 on lifting appliances and anchor handling winches. The regulation will enter into force on 1 January 2026.

Application

The new provisions of SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-13 include, inter alia:

- Design, construction, installation and testing requirements for new lifting appliances and anchor handling winches (Reg.3-13.2.1 and 13.2.2)
- Survey, examination, testing and certification requirements of existing lifting appliances and anchor handling winches at periodic intervals (Reg.3-13.2.4 and 13.2.5)
- Permanent Marking of Safe Working load (SWL) on all lifting appliances (Reg.3-13.2.3)
- Application of MSC.1/Circ.1662 (anchor handling winches) and MSC.1/Circ.1663 (lifting appliances).

Accordingly, lifting appliances and anchor handling winches fitted on board Luxembourg flagged ships subject to this regulation shall comply with the applicable requirements as follows:

- upon delivery of a newbuilding on or after 1 January 2026
- upon installation of new lifting appliances or anchor handling winches on or after 1 January 2026
- for existing lifting appliances and anchor handling winches (installed before 1 January 2026), latest upon the first renewal survey on or after 1 January 2026.

Recognised Organisations are authorised to conduct plan approval, surveys, testing and certification on behalf of this Administration.

SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-13 does not apply to:

- lifting appliances on ships certified as MODUs
- lifting appliances used on offshore construction ships, such as pipe/cable laying/repair or offshore installation vessels, including ships for decommissioning work, which comply with standards acceptable to the Administration
- integrated mechanical equipment for opening and closing hold hatch covers; and
- life-saving launching appliances complying with the International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code.

Lifting appliances

For lifting appliances, the provisions of SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-13 apply as described in MSC.1/Circ.1663.

After due consideration of the provisions of the SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-13.1.3 and the associated IMO guidelines, this Administration has determined that lifting appliances with an SWL below 1000 kg fall outside the mandatory scope of approval, survey, and certification requirements contained in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.4 of the Regulation.

Nevertheless, ship owners and operators are encouraged to apply these requirements on a voluntary basis.

In all cases, the following minimum safety measures shall remain applicable:

- Each appliance must be permanently and legibly marked with its SWL and documentary evidence of the SWL shall be retained on board.
- Ship owners and operators should assess the appliances' usage and associated risks, and incorporate procedures for inspection, maintenance, and training/familiarization within the Safety Management System (SMS).

Anchor handling winches

For anchor handling winches, the applicable guidelines are contained in MSC.1/Circ.1662.

All anchor handling winches, regardless of capacity, fall within the mandatory scope of SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-13 and are subject to the requirements for design approval, testing, survey, and maintenance as specified in the above-mentioned IMO circular.

Furthermore, ship owners and operators are reminded to ensure that anchor handling winches are:

- Included in the vessel's inspection and maintenance schedules; and
- Addressed within the SMS for training and familiarization purposes.

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