

LP BULLETIN

Thursday 13 September 2007

Bulletin 543 - 09/07 - Servicing and maintenance of lifeboats, launching appliances and on-load release gear - Worldwide

The US Coast Guard (USCG) has issued a circular concerning servicing and maintenance of lifeboats, launching appliances and on-load release gear. Although the circular is aimed at US-flagged ships, it provides guidance on the implementation of SOLAS and will be of interest to all ship owners and operators.

Navigation and vessel inspection circular (NVIC) No. 04-07 can be downloaded from the following USCG website: www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nvic/

The circular provides guidance on IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) circular MSC.1/Circ. 1206 Measures to prevent accidents with lifeboats (published 26 May 2006), which is a compilation of the four previous MSC circulars dealing with lifeboat maintenance, drills, and training. NVIC No. 04-07 focuses in particular on the implementation of Annex 1 to the circular (guidance for periodic servicing and maintenance of lifeboats, launching appliances and on-load release gear).



The USCG suggests that ship operators, lifesaving equipment manufacturers, servicing and repair facilities and personnel, and officers in charge of marine inspections ensure that servicing and maintenance of lifeboats and launching systems is carried out in accordance with the guidance in this NVIC. The NVIC can be downloaded directly in pdf format from the following url:

<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nvic/0-07/NVIC%2004-07.pdf>

Source of information: United States Coast Guard
US Department of Homeland Security
www.uscg.mil