



## PORTS and MARITIME AFFAIRS

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### Directive No. SOLAS/02

#### **TYPE APPROVAL CERTIFICATE FOR BAHRAINI SHIPS**

Issued under the enabling power of the Ministerial Resolution 20/2016

Issue Date: 27<sup>th</sup> December 2016

## 1 Introduction

(1) With reference to;

- Ports and Maritime Affairs (PMA) resolution no. 8/2016: regarding the implementation of the requirements of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 and its amendments
- MSC.1/Circ.1221: Validity of Type Approval Certification for Marine Products
- Resolution MSC.265(84): Amendments to the Revised Guidelines for Approval of Sprinkler Systems Equivalent to that Referred to in SOLAS Regulation II-2/12 (Resolution A.800(19))
- Resolution MEPC.107 (49): revised Guidelines and Specifications for Pollution Prevention Equipment for Machinery Space Bilges of Ships.
- SOLAS 1974, chapter II-2
- SOLAS 1974, regulation III/4.1
- SOLAS 1974, regulation IV/14.1
- SOLAS 1974, regulation V/18.1

(2) The International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions require flag States to ensure that the equipment installed on board ships complies with certain IMO Performance Standards requirements and maintain its compliance with the type approval conditions. Type Approval Certificate shall be issued by the flag States.

(3) The PMA issue this directive in line with the Bahrain Degree Law No. 13 of 1985 in respect to acceding to IMO Conventions; SOLAS 74 including all codes, MARPOOL 73/78, Tonnage Convention 1969, Load Lines 1966 and the Collision Regulations 1972



- (4) This directive provides guidance on obtaining an approval for individual items of equipment provided on board Bahraini ships, to meet the requirements of International Conventions and which must be "approved by the Administration". All Recognized Organization (RO) and Ship owners to be guided accordingly.

## 2 Definitions:

- (1) Type-approved: A procedure for the approval of the product design, including drawing appraisal and prototype test performance
- (2) Type Approval Certificate: A document certifying that the product was found to be in compliance with the relevant PMA Directive and IMO Performance standards.

## 3 PMA Requirement:

- (1) All vessels, including non-Conventional vessel below 500GT, are required to have on board equipment and systems that are accepted by the PMA.
- (2) Type approvals are required by the relevant requirement in the IMO convention under such subject:
- (a) **Fire safety systems**  
(e. g.: fire extinguishers, fire-fighter's outfit, curtains, bedding components and fire-extinguishing systems)
  - (b) **Lifesaving Appliances and Arrangements**  
(e.g.: life jackets, rocket parachute flares, lifeboats and marine evacuation systems)
  - (c) **Navigation Lights and Shapes**
  - (d) **Navigational system and equipment**  
(e. g.: compasses, radar installations, voyage data recorders (VDR) and electronic chart display and information systems (ECDIS))
  - (e) **Sound Signal Appliances**
  - (f) **Electronic Equipment (bridge and engine).**



- (g) **Radiocommunication Equipment**  
(e. g.: radio sets and EPIRBs (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon))
  - (h) **Marine Pollution Prevention Equipment**  
(e. g.: oily-water separating equipment, oil filtering equipment, process units, oil content meters and oil/water interface detectors)
- (3) The requirement for the installation of approved systems or products on board ships is set in the relevant Conventions and Codes, it is specifically stated in the Conventions using the words "approve", "approved" or "approval".
- (4) Such products or systems may either be approved by the Product Certification Body or by Classification Societies. When approval by one of these organizations is permitted, it will either be stated directly in the relevant IMO conventions or it will be stated in an agreement between the organization and the PMA under the delegation agreement.
- (5) Any approval system shall be guided by the relevant section of the Conventions and Codes as amended, type approval process shall also conform to an established international standards index and best practices for the same industry. It is preferred that any audit process involved with such approval to be ISO 9001 and above.

#### 4 Type Approval Certificate

- (1) The PMA has delegated all equipment approval and issuing of certificates of type approval to the ROs through the delegation agreements, thus PMA accepts all IACS type approve equipment and certifications, a copy of the Type Approval Certificate should be carried on board ships.
- (2) The PMA accepts equipment approvals granted by another State which is a Party to the SOLAS Convention; provided, the approvals are fully in accordance with Convention requirements.
- (3) The PMA also accepts equipment approvals by United State Coast Guard (USCG), UK MCA, AMSA, EMSA, and Japan Coast Guard.
- (4) Existing equipment, which was manufactured and tested in accordance with previous SOLAS Convention requirements, may continue to be used



as long as it remains in serviceable condition and meet the IMO performance standards.

## 5 Requirement for Ships Changing to Bahrain Flag:

- (1) PMA requires a declaration by the owners to the effect that the ship is compliant with international convention standards/equivalents and a written undertaking to replace any **non-type approval** compliant items when they become time expired or not meeting the IMO Performance Standards compliant equipment.
- (2) A comprehensive list of the non-type approval compliant items, including details of the standards to which each item is approved, and confirmation that it has been inspected by the attending surveyor, must be provided to the PMA at the earliest opportunity.
- (3) A Statement of Compliance confirming the type approval compliance has to be provided to the PMA at the earliest opportunity.

## 6 Revision History:

Revision No. 1 of the present Directive is the first revision.

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Undersecretary for Ports and Maritime Affairs  
27<sup>th</sup> December 2016