



Amendments to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966, as modified by the Protocol of 1988.

Notice to all shipowners, masters, assigning authorities and surveyors

This notice should be read with MSN 1752

This MIN expires upon amendment of MSN 1752

Summary

This notice provides information on an amendment made to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966, as modified by the Protocol of 1988 adopted at the 90th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee. The amendment relates to adjustment of the Southern Winter Seasonal Zone off the coast of South Africa.

1. Background

- 1.1 The amendment is the result of a combination of a traffic separation scheme, coastal proximity restrictions and local hazards off the coast of South Africa. These restrictions were encouraging tankers to enter potential close quarters situations rather than exit the Summer Seasonal Zone. The desire to remain loaded to their summer marks also encouraged westbound tankers to exercise their right to relax the coastal proximity restriction, bringing them closer to the shore and thus more vulnerable to the strong Agulhas current which is a feature of the area. Concern existed that these factors could contribute to an incident involving one or more laden tankers in close proximity to the coast with the commensurate potential for environmental catastrophe.
- 1.2 South Africa proposed to the Maritime Safety Committee at IMO that the Winter Seasonal Zone be moved South by 50nm off the tip of Africa thereby allowing tankers to re-route further out from the coast without freeboard penalty and to round the Cape of Good Hope on their summer marks year round. In support of the proposed amendment South Africa provided wind and wave data that showed that the conditions in the new zone were compliant with the load line criteria for summer zones – not more than 10% winds of force 8 Beaufort (34 knots) or more. The data further demonstrated that conditions in the new zone were not substantially different to those in the existing zone. Furthermore it was noted that the Summer Seasonal Zone extends considerably further South around New Zealand. After discussion at IMO the proposed amendment was adopted.



1.3 The resultant amendment to the Load Line convention is documented in section 2.

2. Amendment details

2.1 This amendment was adopted at the ninetieth session of the Maritime Safety Committee by resolution MSC.329(90) and entered into force on 1 January 2014.

2.2 The existing text of Regulation 47 (Southern Winter Seasonal Zone) located in Annex II of the convention (Zones, areas and seasonal periods) is replaced by:

“The northern boundary of the Southern Winter Seasonal Zone is: the rhumb line from the east coast of the American continent at Cape Tres Puntas to the point latitude 34° S, longitude 50° W, thence the parallel of latitude 34° S to longitude 16° E, thence the rhumb line to the point latitude 36° S, longitude 20° E, thence the rhumb line to the point latitude 34° S, longitude 30° E, thence along the rhumb line to the point latitude 35°30' S, longitude 118° E, and thence the rhumb line to Cape Grim on the north-west coast of Tasmania; thence along the north and east coasts of Tasmania to the southernmost point of Bruny Island, thence the rhumb line to Black Rock Point on Stewart Island, thence the rhumb line to the point latitude 47° S, longitude 170° E, thence along the rhumb line to the point latitude 33° S, longitude 170° W, and thence the parallel of latitude 33° S to the point latitude 33° S, longitude 79° W, thence the rhumb line to the point latitude 41° S, longitude 75° W, thence the rhumb line to Punta Corona lighthouse on Chiloe Island, latitude 41°47' S, longitude 73°53' W, thence along the north, east and south coasts of Chiloe Island to the point latitude 43°20' S, longitude 74°20' W, and thence the meridian of longitude 74°20' W to the parallel of latitude 45°45' S, including the inner zone of Chiloe channels from the meridian 74°20' W to the east.

Seasonal periods:

WINTER: 16 April to 15 October

SUMMER: 16 October to 15 April”

3. Effect on MSN 1752

3.1 The text within the quotation marks in section 2.2 of this MIN should be taken as replacing the current text of MSN 1752(M), Schedule 1, Paragraph 7.



More Information

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