



Maritime &
Coastguard
Agency

MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE

MSN 1874 (M+F) Amendment 3

Marine Equipment - United Kingdom conformity assessment procedures for marine equipment, Other Approval and Standards

Notice to all:

- Manufacturers and Distributors of Marine Equipment
- Masters, Officers and Skippers of: Merchant Ships, Fishing Vessels, Small Commercial Vessels and Pleasure Vessels
- Ship: Builders, Designers, Operators, Owners and Managers
- Marine Consultants, Recognised Organisations, Certifying Authorities and Approved and Nominated Bodies

This Notice should be read with the Merchant Shipping (Marine Equipment) Regulations 2016 SI 2016/1025 as amended by the Merchant Shipping (Marine Equipment) (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 SI 2018/TBC ("the Regulations") and relevant UK carriage requirement instruments.

This Notice replaces MSN1874 (M+F) amendment 2.

Summary

This Notice has been given force of law by Statute (SI 2016/1025) as amended.

The objective of the Regulations is to enhance safety at sea and to prevention of pollution to the marine environment through the uniform application of the relevant international instruments relating to equipment to be placed on board ships registered with the UK.

This Notice gives technical information and guidance about the procedures for obtaining type approval in conformity with the Regulations. It also gives information regarding the United Kingdom's policy for enforcing these requirements, and other standards to be applied to equipment on board United Kingdom ships.

This Notice, replaces Merchant Shipping Notice 1874 (M+F) amendment 2 in view of amendments to the Regulations to address failures of the Regulations (as originally enacted) to operate effectively and other deficiencies arising from the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union.



1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Regulations and this Notice set out performance and testing standards to be met by marine equipment placed or to be placed on board a UK ship in accordance with the UK's conformity assessment procedures, as detailed in part I of this Notice.
- 1.2 This Notice also sets out type approval procedures for equipment placed or to be placed on board UK ships which is outside the scope of the UK's conformity assessment procedures for marine equipment, but requires conformity approval by various UK instruments. Such type approvals are carried out by nominated bodies in accordance with the procedures in part II of this Notice.
- 1.3 Further, this Notice sets out the technical standards for equipment not requiring conformity assessment of type approval, before being placed on board a UK ship and for which the carriage requirement does not provide for a specific standard of equipment.
- 1.4 This Notice is split into three parts, covering three overarching categories of equipment:
- 1.4.1 Part I, sets out the equipment within the scope of the UK's conformity assessment procedures for marine equipment and the associated technical requirements to which equipment must be approved by an approved body;
 - 1.4.2 Part II, sets out the requirements for equipment that falls outside the scope of the UK's conformity assessment procedures for marine equipment but nonetheless requires type of the Maritime & Coastguard Agency ("MCA") as the flag administration for UK ships under the international instruments, and equipment required to be approved in accordance with other UK domestic instruments; and
 - 1.4.3 Part III, sets out technical standards and arrangements for other equipment, where there is no specified standard for such equipment specified in existing UK instruments.

1.5 Interpretation:

In this Notice:

- 1.5.1 "The Regulations" shall mean the Merchant Shipping (Marine Equipment) Regulations 2016 SI 2016/1025 as amended by the Merchant Shipping (Marine Equipment) (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 SI 2018/TBC.
- 1.5.2 Where a specific regulation is cited, unless specifically stated otherwise, this shall be construed as reference to a regulation within the Regulations.
- 1.5.3 Where the term "Part" is used in relation to Part I, II or III of this Notice, this refers to the respective part of this Notice.
- 1.5.4 Unless expressly stated otherwise, a term used in this Notice shall have the same meaning as defined in regulation 2 of the Regulations.



PART I – Equipment within the scope of the UK conformity assessment procedures for marine equipment

2. Scope of equipment approval according to the UK conformity assessment procedures for marine equipment

- 2.1 Equipment within the scope of Part I is that which is required by the international instruments and must be approved by the flag state administration of the relevant ship, as provided for in regulation 5(1)..
- 2.2 Equipment to which Part I applies must be approved by one or more approved bodies. For more information regarding the approval procedure and / or the application of requirements of such equipment, an approved body which may assess the relevant equipment should be contacted. A full list of approved bodies can be found in paragraph 5.2 of this part.
- 2.3 Manufacturers with existing approval certificates in accordance with the Directive (Directive 2014/90/EU on marine equipment) may continue to make their equipment available to the UK market and to be placed on board UK ships as provided for in regulation 5.

3. Requirements for equipment to be placed on board a UK Ship

- 3.1 Equipment placed on board a UK ship to which this Part applies must meet the design, construction and performance requirements of the international instruments detailed in Annex 1 of this Notice applicable at the time when that equipment is placed on board in accordance with regulation 5(1).
- 3.2 Unless there is a change in the applicable standards specified in Annex 1 of this Notice for equipment already placed on board a UK ship, existing approval will continue to be accepted providing equipment continues to operate in accordance with its existing approval. If equipment is replaced, it must be replaced with equipment which complies with the Regulations.

4. Domestic Passenger Ships and Large Fishing Vessels

- 4.1 As required by regulation 5(2), where equipment is specified in Annex 1 of this Notice, a domestic passenger ship or fishing vessel must carry equipment that complies with applicable international standards, except where a carriage requirement provides for an alternative standard. The carriage requirements are listed in Annex 4 of this Notice.
- 4.2 Regulation 5(2)(c) provides an exception to regulation 5(2) detailed above, such that equipment voluntarily placed on board must meet the standard(s) specified by the Secretary of State. This provision is to allow flexibility while ensuring a minimum standard of safety. Such specified standards will be agreed by a ship's appointed MCA surveyor where it is proven that the equipment complying with applicable international standards does not offer a practicable solution for reasons of size of the equipment/ integration with the ship or vessel etc.

5. UK Approved Bodies

- 5.1 The MCA has designated organisations listed below as approved bodies for the purpose of carrying out approvals of equipment to undertake the examination, testing and certification of the equipment specified in Annex 1 of this Notice.
- 5.2 For information regarding the equipment types and modules of conformity an approved body may perform, the specific body must be contacted:



<p>ABS Europe Ltd ABS House 1 Frying Pan Alley London E1 7HR Tel: 0207 247 3255 Fax: 0207 377 2453 Email: ABS-MED@eagle.org</p>	<p>BSI Group Kitemark Court Davy Avenue Knowlhill, Milton Keynes MK5 8PP Tel: +44 (0) 845 080 9000 Email: Jitesh.pankhania@bsigroup.com</p>
<p>BTTG Testing & Certification Ltd Unit 14 Wheel Forge Way Trafford Park Manchester M17 1EH Tel: 0161 873 6543 Fax: 0161 848 7378 Email: cabutcher@bttg-cert.co.uk</p>	<p>Fleetwood Test House Blackpool & the Flyde College, Fleetwood Nautical Campus, Broadwater Fleetwood FY7 8JZ UK Tel: +44 (0) 1253 504725 Email: Brooke.Smith@blackpool.ac.uk</p>
<p>INSPEC International Ltd 56, Leslie Hough Way Salford Greater Manchester M6 6AJ England Tel: +44 (0) 161 737 0699 Fax: +44 (0) 161 736 0101 Email: certification@inspec-international.com</p>	<p>Lloyd's Register Verification Ltd. Lloyd's Register Global Technology Centre, Southampton Boldrewood Innovation Campus, Burgess Road, Southampton SO16 7QF T: +44 (0)330 414 0299 Email: MED@lr.org</p>
<p>BRE Global Ltd Bucknalls Lane Garston WD25 9XX Tel: 01923 665 114 Fax: 01923 664 103 E-mail: prattm@bre.co.uk Customer Services 0333 321 8811</p>	<p>TUV SUD BABT Octagon House, Concorde Way, Segensworth North Fareham, PO15 5RL Hampshire Tel: 01489 558175 Tel: 01489 558100 Fax: 01489 558101 Email: babt@tuv-sud.co.uk</p>
<p>UL International (UK) Ltd Wonersh House, The Guildway, Old Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU3 1LR United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0) 1483 40 20 23 Fax: +44 (0) 1483 30 22 30 Email: inform.NB@uk.ul.com</p>	<p>Warrington Certification Holmesfield Road Warrington Cheshire. WA1 2DS Tel: 01925 646 669 Email: janet.murrell@exova.com</p>



- 5.3 Approved bodies must meet the requirements of Schedule 3 of the Regulations and will be assessed at least once every 2 years to confirm compliance with these requirements. The United Kingdom Accreditation Services (UKAS) as the national accreditation body is delegated this assessment responsibility. Further information and guidance is available for conformity assessment bodies wishing to be designated as an approved body in Marine Guidance Note 554 as amended.
- 5.4 The MCA is responsible for designating approved bodies on behalf of the Secretary of State. For this purpose, the MCA can be contacted at the following address;

Marine Equipment Quality Assurance
Marine Technology, Bay 2/27
The Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road
Southampton
SO15 1EG
United Kingdom
+44 (0) 203 817 2000

6. UK Market Surveillance

- 6.1 The MCA, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport, is the market surveillance authority for equipment and is required to carry out market surveillance. Approved bodies, manufacturers and manufacturer's authorised representatives must cooperate with MCA market surveillance inspectors as indicated in this Part and in accordance with the Regulations. Market surveillance seeks to ensure the safety of products offered for supply to the UK market and UK ships. Such market surveillance will take into consideration the conformity assessment procedures applicable to equipment and the responsibilities of the flag state administrations in the international instruments.
- 6.2 Market surveillance may include the inspection of documents supplied with equipment to confirm its compliance as well as checks of equipment specified in regulation 5(1) whether or not it has been placed on board a UK ship. Where checks are carried out on equipment placed on board a UK ship, such checks will be limited to examinations that can be carried out while the equipment remains fully functional on board.
- 6.3 When the MCA has received evidence to suggest equipment specified in Part I may not be in compliance with the international instruments and / or poses a risk to the safety of persons on board UK ships or the marine environment it may seek further evidence by carrying out sample checks of such equipment. Accordingly, the MCA may request the manufacturer to provide the necessary samples at the manufacturer's own cost, or give on-the-spot access to the samples at the manufacturer's premises.
- 6.4 Where the MCA has sufficient reason to believe that equipment to which this Part is applicable presents a risk to maritime safety, to health or to the environment, it may carry out an evaluation in relation to the equipment concerned covering all the requirements for such equipment. The relevant economic operators must cooperate as necessary with the MCA in accordance with the Regulations. Additionally, the MCA may inform the public on the potential risk via the publication of safety bulletins etc.



- 6.5 Where the MCA finds that, subject to the evaluation in 6.4, the equipment does not comply with the requirements in this Part, the MCA may without delay require the relevant economic operator to take all appropriate corrective actions to bring the equipment into compliance with those requirements, using existing powers in the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 by way of an improvement or prohibition notice. This will be commensurate with the nature and extent of the risk which the MCA considers is posed by the equipment, as it may prescribe, or any other corrective measure justified by the MCA. The MCA will inform the relevant approved body accordingly. Where the economic operator does not carry out such corrective measures within the timeframe specified by the MCA, the MCA may initiate such appropriate measures as are necessary to prohibit or restrict non-compliant equipment from being supplied to the UK market or placed on board UK ships.
- 6.6 Where it is considered that non-compliance may not be limited to the UK market, the MCA may inform other parties to the international instruments flag administrations and international organisations to include the nature of the non-compliance and the corrective actions which has been implemented.



PART II – Approved equipment outside the scope of the UK’s conformity assessment procedures but requiring approval under international instruments or other UK domestic instruments

7. Scope of Approval

- 7.1 Equipment to which this Part applies is that equipment outside the scope the UK’s conformity assessment procedures for marine equipment, but nonetheless requires approval by the MCA as a UK ship’s flag administration under international instruments. Part II also applies to equipment that requires approval by other UK domestic instruments and are specified in Annex 2 of this Notice. This equipment must be type approved by the UK nominated bodies.
- 7.2 Where equipment within the scope of this Part is of a novel nature or subject to significant design changes or the specifications or testing requirements are not considered to be sufficiently developed or experience of their usage is limited, the MCA must be contacted regarding the undertaking of the necessary approval procedure. For this purpose, the MCA contact details in paragraph 5.4 above should be used.

8. Requirements for Equipment

- 8.1 Equipment which is placed on board a UK ship to which this Part applies must hold a valid type approval certificate issued by a nominated body at the time when that equipment is placed on board.
- 8.2 The performance and testing standards of equipment within the scope of this Part are specified in Annex 2 of this Notice. In consultation with the MCA, a nominated body may waive the requirements for any test specifically cited in a performance standard providing it is satisfied that the sample has met the criteria of a specification superior to that of the prescribed test.
- 8.3 Existing type approval certificates for equipment within the scope of this Part will remain valid before the certificate’s expiry date, or until cancelled. Upon the expiry date of the certificate, manufacturers must re-apply for renewal of their certificate to a Nominated Body. If requirements have not changed a new certificate will be issued. All certificates of type approval will be valid for up to 5 years.
- 8.4 Unless there is a change in the required standards specified in Annex 2 of this Notice applicable to equipment already placed on board a UK ship, existing approval will continue to be accepted providing the equipment operates satisfactorily. If it needs to be replaced, then it must be replaced with equipment for which a current type approval certificate is in force.

9. Domestic Passenger Ships and Large Fishing Vessels

- 9.1 As required by regulation 5(2), where equipment is specified in Annex 2 of this Notice, a domestic passenger ship or fishing vessel must carry equipment that has been approved by a nominated body, except where a carriage requirement provides for an alternative standard to be met. The carriage requirements are listed in Annex 4 of this Notice.
- 9.2 Regulation 5(2)(c) provides an exception to regulation 5(2) detailed above, such that equipment voluntarily placed on board must meet the standard(s) specified by the Secretary of State. This provision is to allow flexibility while ensuring a minimum standard of safety. Such specified standards will be agreed by a ship’s appointed MCA surveyor where it is proven that the equipment complying with applicable international standards does not offer



a practicable solution for reasons of size of the equipment/ integration with the ship or vessel etc.

10. Application for Type Approval

- 10.1 A manufacturer or person wishing to obtain type approval of equipment specified in Annex 2 of this Notice must submit an application to a Nominated Body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Regulations. The application must include:
- 10.1.1 The name and address of the manufacturer and, if the application is lodged by an authorised representative, their name and address;
 - 10.1.2 A written declaration that the same or a similar application has not been lodged with another nominated body;
 - 10.1.3 The technical documentation described in 10.3 below; and
 - 10.1.4 The applicant must place at the disposal of the nominated body sufficient specimens representative of the production envisaged. The nominated body may request further specimens if needed for carrying out the test programme.
- 10.2 The technical documentation must enable a nominated body to assess conformity of the product with the requirements and testing standards specified in Annex 2 of this Notice. It must cover the design, build standards, manufacture and functioning of the equipment, as far as relevant for conformity assessment.
- 10.3 The technical documentation must contain all relevant data or means used by the manufacturer to ensure that the equipment complies with the essential requirements relating to it. It must also enable understanding of the design, manufacture and operation of the product and assessment of conformity with the relevant requirements.
- 10.4 The documentation shall contain so far as is relevant for assessment:
- 10.4.1 A general description of the equipment;
 - 10.4.2 Conceptual design and manufacturing drawings and schemes of components and relevant supporting drawings;
 - 10.4.3 Descriptions and explanations necessary for the understanding of the drawings and schemes including operation of the equipment;
 - 10.4.4 Results of design calculations made, impartial examinations carried out etc;
 - 10.4.5 Impartial test reports; and
 - 10.4.6 Manuals for installation, use and maintenance.
- 10.5 Where appropriate, the design documentation must contain the following elements:
- 10.5.1 Attestations relating to the equipment incorporated in the appliance;
 - 10.5.2 Attestations and certificates relating to the methods of manufacture and / or inspections and / or monitoring of the appliance; and
 - 10.5.3 Any other document making it possible for the nominated body to improve its assessment.



11. Assessment of Type Approval

- 11.1 On receipt of an application for type approval in accordance with paragraph 10 above, a nominated body must:
 - 11.1.1 Examine the technical documentation and verify that the equipment has been manufactured in conformity with the technical documentation;
 - 11.1.2 Agree with the applicant the location where the examination and necessary tests are to be carried out; and
 - 11.1.3 Perform or have performed the appropriate examination and necessary tests to check whether the relevant requirements specified in Annex 2 are complied with.
- 11.2 Type approval tests must be conducted at a laboratory accredited for such tests by the UKAS or equivalent national accreditation body. However, if no such laboratory is available, a laboratory recognised by the nominated body as offering suitable and satisfactory guarantee of technical and professional competence, quality procedures and autonomy with particular reference to the application of ISO/IEC 17025 (2017), as amended may be used.
- 11.3 Where the equipment meets the provisions of the relevant requirements specified in Annex 2 of this Notice and test and performance standards, the nominated body must issue a certificate of type approval to the applicant. The certificate must contain the name and address of the manufacturer, details of the equipment, conclusions of the examination, conditions for its validity and the necessary data for identification of the approved type.
- 11.4 A list of the relevant parts of the technical documentation including drawings and instructions must be annexed to the certificate and a copy kept by the nominated body.
- 11.5 If the manufacturer is refused a certificate of type approval, the nominated body must provide detailed reasons for such refusal in writing, to the applicant for type approval.
- 11.6 Where an application is rejected after completion of the type approval procedure, the manufacturer must modify the equipment to take account of the reasons for rejection before making a new submission to the nominated body. In the manufacturer's application to the nominated body they must include:
 - 11.6.1 the original examination and test results;
 - 11.6.2 the detailed reasons provided by the nominated body for the previous refusal; and
 - 11.6.3 details of all modifications made to the equipment since the previous application.
- 11.7 Upon receipt of the re-submission of the application for type approval, the nominated body must re-open the approval procedure.
- 11.8 The applicant must inform the nominated body that holds the technical documentation concerning the certificate of type approval of all modifications to the approved product which must receive additional approval where such changes may affect the conformity with the requirements or the prescribed conditions for use of the equipment. This additional approval must be given in the form of an addition to the original certificate of type approval.



12. Issue of Type Approval

- 12.1 Providing that a nominated body is satisfied that the equipment complies in all respects with the requirements in Annex 2 of this Notice and any specifications laid down by the MCA and subject to the provisions below, the nominated body must issue a certificate of type approval stating the terms and conditions of approval and period of validity which must be up to 5 years.
- 12.2 A certificate of type approval refers only to equipment identical to that assessed. It is also a condition of issue of the certificate that a manufacturer must consult with the nominated body prior to any alteration to the approved standard of the equipment, hardware, software or firmware.
- 12.3 The nominated body may require further testing and assessment to be undertaken in the event of a modification, or series of modifications, being considered to constitute sufficient departure from the approved standard of the equipment hardware, software or firmware for which the certificate of type approval was originally issued.
- 12.4 The certificates of type approval and / or their additions and annexes to the certificates, technical documentation, other documentary evidence used to type approve the equipment must be kept at the disposal of the MCA and other nominated bodies for a period of not less than 10 years after the last product has been manufactured.
- 12.5 The manufacturer or his authorised representative shall keep with the technical documentation copies of certificates of type approval and their additions for a period of at least 10 years after the last product has been manufactured.

13. Nominated Bodies

- 13.1 Nominated bodies are those bodies which have been designated by the Secretary of State to carry out type approval of equipment placed on board UK ships under regulation 4 of the Regulations. The designated UK Nominated Bodies are listed below along with the equipment types they are designated to approve.

ABS Europe Ltd 1 Frying Pan Alley London E1 7HR Tel: 0207 377 2453 Fax: 0207 247 3255	Bureau Veritas Department Equipment and Materials Certification 67/71 Boulevard du Chateau 92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine France Tel. + +33 (0)1 55 24 75 71 Fax. + 33 1 55 24 70 45 Email: marineequipment.paris@bureauveritas.com
DNV GL 4500 Parkway Solent Business Park Whiteley Hampshire PO15 7AZ	Lloyd's Register Verification Ltd. Lloyd's Register Global Technology Centre, Southampton Boldrewood Innovation Campus, Burgess Road, Southampton



Tel: 02380 745 940 Fax: 02380 745 941 Email: Southampton@dnvgl.com	SO16 7QF T: +44 (0)330 414 0299 Email: MED@lr.org
RINA Services S.p.A. North Wing, 1st Floor 2 Charlotte Place 29-31 Kingston Crescent Southampton SO14 0TB Tel:+44 23 80332271 Fax: +44 23 80331744 E-mail southampton.office@rina.org	TUV SUD BAPT Octagon House, Concorde Way, Segensworth North Fareham, PO15 5RL Hampshire Tel: +44 (0)1489 558175 or +44 (0)1489 558100 Fax: +44 (0)1489 558101 Email: babt@tuv-sud.co.uk

The nominated bodies listed in Column 1 of Table A below may undertake type approval of any of the categories of equipment listed in Column 2 of Table A.

The nominated bodies listed in Column 1 of Table B below may undertake type approval only of the categories of equipment listed in Column 2 of Table B.

TABLE A

Column 1	Column 2
NOMINATED BODY	EQUIPMENT CATEGORY
ABS Europe Ltd Bureau Veritas Det Norkse Veritas Germanischer Lloyd AG Lloyd's Register RINA Services S.p.A.	Life-Saving appliances Marine Pollution prevention equipment Fire Protection Equipment Marine Engineering equipment Crew accommodation equipment Equipment required under COLREG 72 Bulk carrier safety equipment SOLAS Chapter II-1 equipment

TABLE B

Column 1	Column 2
NOMINATED BODY	EQUIPMENT CATEGORY
TUV SUD BAPT	Navigation Equipment Radiocommunication Equipment Life-saving appliances (Radar reflector for liferafts)

13.2 Each nominated body must provide upon request to the MCA and other nominated bodies the relevant information concerning the certificates of type approval and additions issued and withdrawn.



Part III – Other Equipment Standards

14. Scope of Equipment Standards and Requirements

- 14.1** Equipment within this Part is equipment required by UK instruments and specified in Annex 3 of this Notice, but where no standard for such equipment is specified to provide an acceptable level of safety to domestic ships outside the scope of the international conventions. This equipment may not be of an approved type and in all cases must comply with the relevant standard specified in Annex 3 of this Notice.

15. Requirements for Equipment

- 15.1** Equipment specified in Annex 3 of this Notice and placed on board a UK ship to which this Part applies in accordance with regulation 5(3) must meet the design, construction and performance requirements of the standards in Annex 3 valid at the time when that equipment is placed on board. Annex 3 of this Notice also sets out the ship type to which each specified standard is applicable.



More Information

Marine Technology Branch
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105 Commercial Road
Southampton
SO15 1EG

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Website Address: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/maritime-and-coastguard-agency

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