



6 July 2023

Initial Launch Tests of Lifeboats

Applicability: shipowners, ship operators, ship managers, ship masters, designers, and shipbuilders.

The International Maritime Organisation has adopted amendments to the SOLAS Convention, Resolution MSC.81(70) and the International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code*, which come into force on **1 January 2024**.

These amendments mean the installation survey requirement for carrying out a launch test of lifeboats, when the ship is making headway at not less than five knots, will only be applicable to davit-launched lifeboats **and will no longer be required for free-fall lifeboats.**

Possible early implementation

Flag Administrations may choose to adopt the amendments prior to the entry-into-force date of **1 January 2024** and allow early implementation, as permitted by [MSC.8/Circular 2](#) and [MSC.1/Circular 1565](#).

For further information

Please check the Lloyd's Register Country File to confirm whether the flag Administration permits early implementation. Alternatively, please speak to one of our experts at your local [Lloyd's Register office](#) or contact statutorysupport@lr.org

* [IMO Resolutions MSC.482\(103\)](#), [MSC.485\(103\)](#) and [MSC.488\(103\)](#)

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