

RESOLUTION MSC.559(108) (adopted on 23 May 2024)  
AMENDMENTS TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTENANCE, THOROUGH EXAMINATION,  
OPERATIONAL TESTING, OVERHAUL AND REPAIR OF LIFEBOATS AND RESCUE BOATS, LAUNCHING  
APPLIANCES AND RELEASE GEAR (RESOLUTION MSC.402(96))

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AND RESCUE BOATS, LAUNCHING APPLIANCES AND RELEASE GEAR  
(RESOLUTION MSC.402(96))**

THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 28(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Committee,

RECALLING ALSO resolution MSC.402(96), by which it adopted the *Requirements for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear* ("the Requirements"), which has become mandatory under chapter III of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974 ("the Convention"), as amended by resolution MSC.404(96),

RECALLING FURTHER article VIII(b) and regulation III/3.25 of the Convention concerning the procedure for amending the Requirements,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the amendments to the LSA Code adopted by resolution MSC.535(107), with respect to ventilation means, and openings of the ventilation system and their means of closing for totally enclosed lifeboats,

RECOGNIZING the need to keep the Requirements up to date with regard to annual thorough examination and operational testing of ventilation systems,

HAVING CONSIDERED, at its 108th session, amendments to the Requirements, proposed and circulated in accordance with VIII(b)(i) of the Convention,

1 ADOPTS, in accordance with Article VIII(b)(iv) of the Convention, amendments to the *Requirements for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear*, the text of which is set out in the annex to the present resolution;

2 DETERMINES, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vi)(2)(bb) of the Convention, that the amendments shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 July 2025, unless, prior to that date, more than one third of the Contracting Governments to the Convention or Contracting Governments the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant fleet have notified the Secretary-General of their objections to the amendments;

3 INVITES SOLAS Contracting Governments to note that, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vii)(2) of the Convention, the amendments shall enter into force on 1 January 2026 upon their acceptance in accordance with paragraph 2 above;

4 REQUESTS the Secretary-General, in conformity with Article VIII(b)(v) of the Convention, to transmit certified copies of the present resolution and the text of the amendments contained in the annex to all Contracting Governments to the Convention;

5 ALSO REQUESTS the Secretary-General to transmit copies of this resolution and its annex to Members of the Organization which are not Contracting Governments to the Convention.

## ANNEX

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTENANCE, THOROUGH EXAMINATION, OPERATIONAL TESTING, OVERHAUL AND REPAIR OF LIFEBOATS AND RESCUE BOATS, LAUNCHING APPLIANCES AND RELEASE GEAR (RESOLUTION MSC.402(96))**

#### **6 SPECIFIC PROCEDURES FOR INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE, THOROUGH EXAMINATION, OPERATIONAL TESTING, OVERHAUL AND REPAIR**

##### **6.2 Annual thorough examination and operational test**

###### **1 Paragraph 6.2.3 is replaced by the following:**

"6.2.3 For lifeboats (including free-fall lifeboats), rescue boats and fast rescue boats, the following items shall be thoroughly examined and checked for satisfactory condition and operation:

- .1 condition of the boat structure including fixed and loose equipment (including a visual examination of the external boundaries of the void spaces, as far as practicable);
- .2 engine and propulsion system;
- .3 sprinkler system, where fitted;
- .4 air supply system, where fitted;
- .5 manoeuvring system;
- .6 power supply system;
- .7 bailing system;
- .8 fender/skate arrangements;
- .9 rescue boat righting system, where fitted; and
- .10 ventilation system, where fitted."

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