



ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

CIRCULAR N° SOL 002

SOLAS 74 as Amended – Ch. III – Revised Reg. 19.3.3.3 (in force 1st July 2006) Launching of lifeboats without their assigned operating crew during the required abandon ship drill

**TO: SHIPOWNERS & SHIPS' OPERATORS & MANAGERS
SURVEYORS TO FLAG STATE ADMINISTRATION
CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES**

Monaco, 22nd Oct 2005.

Resolution MSC. 152(78) adopted changes to SOLAS Ch. III Reg. 19.3.3.3 to allow for the launching of lifeboats without their assigned operating crew and subsequent manoeuvring of the lifeboat in the water with the assigned operating crew, during the required abandon ship drill. The changes are due to enter force on 01 July 2006.

In accordance with MSC/Circ. 1127 the St Vincent and the Grenadine Maritime Administration gives effect to the SOLAS Ch. III Reg. 19.3.3.3 amendment. However it is interpreted that this amendment does not make it mandatory for the launching of lifeboats without the assigned operating crew. Therefore the Master may decide if the lifeboat is to be launched with or without particular crew members, according to the circumstances prevailing at the time.

If the Master decides the lifeboat is to be launched without particular crew members:

A procedure must be prepared by the Master/Company (for initial attachment to the ISM manuals, and subsequent inclusion in them after document updating). This procedure will specify all steps that are to be taken, and leave the matter's decision making on all matters including about any crew that he decides that he must have on board in the hands of the master.

Full consideration must be given to the draft of the vessel, and the possibility that the boat will drift under the curve of the hull, (making it impossible to reach via the embarkation ladder), weather conditions, currents and tides etc.

The RO for the company should verify the working of the procedure and so certify to us by an attestation.

St Vincent and the Grenadines Maritime Administration will then issue a certificate authorizing early implementation of 19.3.3.3. To this certificate should be attached a copy of the procedure, stamped by the RO, and we will also attach a copy of MSC Circular 1127.