



**REPUBLIC OF
THE MARSHALL ISLANDS**

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice

No. 2-011-47

Rev. Jul/2019

TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF ALL VESSELS INCLUDING YACHTS, RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS AND APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES

SUBJECT: Plans and Procedures to Recover Persons from the Water

- References:**
- (a) **SOLAS**, *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), Consolidated Edition 2014*, as amended
 - (b) **IMO Resolution [MSC.346\(91\)](#)**, *Application of SOLAS Regulation III/17-1 to ships to which SOLAS Chapter III does not apply*, adopted 30 November 2012
 - (c) **IMO [MSC.1/Circ.1447](#)**, *Guidelines for the Development of Plans and Procedures for Recovery of Persons from the Water*, dated 14 December 2012
 - (d) **IMO [MSC.1/Circ.1182/Rev.1](#)**, *Guide to Recovery Techniques*, dated 21 November 2014
 - (e) **RMI Marine Notice [2-011-13](#)**, *International Safety Management (ISM) Code*
 - (f) **RMI Yacht Code ([MI-103](#))**

PURPOSE:

This Notice implements the requirements for plans and procedures to recover persons from the water for vessels under SOLAS Regulation III/17-1. It extends the application to yachts, to which SOLAS Chapter III does not apply, and clarifies the mechanism by which the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) has applied the requirements to vessels covered by the International Safety Management (ISM) Code.

This Notice supersedes issue 5/15. It reflects amendments to align §1.2 and §1.3 with updated Marine Notice 2-011-13.

APPLICABILITY:

Yachts: Per IMO Resolution [MSC.346\(91\)](#), the Administrator will apply SOLAS Regulation III/17-1 to Private Yachts Limited Charter (PYLC), regardless of size or gross tonnage, and to Commercial

Yachts (CY) of less than 500 gross tons.¹ Compliance is required by the first initial, annual or renewal Compliance Verification to be carried out after 1 July 2015.

ISM Code Vessels: SOLAS Regulation III/17-1 is implemented for vessels to which the ISM Code is applied through Marine Notice [2-011-13](#). These vessels are:

- a. passenger ships (including high-speed craft) regardless of tonnage;
- b. oil tankers, chemical tankers, gas carriers, bulk carriers, passengers and cargo high-speed craft, special purpose ships, other cargo ships and Commercial Yachts (CY) of 500 gross tonnage and upwards; and
- c. self-propelled mobile offshore units (MOUs) and Dynamically Positioned (DP) MOUs of 500 gross tonnage and over engaged on international voyages.

Compliance was required by the first periodical or renewal safety equipment survey to be carried out after 1 July 2014, whichever came first. Ro-Ro passenger ships meeting SOLAS Regulation III/26.4 are deemed to comply with this requirement.

REQUIREMENTS:

1.0 Plans and Procedures

- 1.1 All Companies and Masters of vessels to which this Notice applies must develop vessel-specific plans and procedures for recovering persons from the water to meet SOLAS Regulation III/17-1.
- 1.2 In developing such plans and procedures, the guidelines provided in IMO [MSC.1/Circ.1447](#) and [MSC.1/Circ.1182/Rev.1](#) must be considered.
- 1.3 The plans and procedures must identify the equipment intended for recovery, and measures to be taken to minimize the risk to shipboard personnel involved in recovery operations. Where it is concluded, after having performed a risk assessment, that the use of specialized equipment is not necessary, the alternative approach must be clearly and thoroughly described within the plans and procedures. Such a scenario may rely on other ships which operate nearby or assistance of standby vessels. In such circumstances, the ship's Master must review and accept (in writing) the relevant plans and procedures of the other involved vessel(s) upon which his ship relies and familiarize his crew accordingly.

¹ Commercial Yachts 500 gross tons or more and all Passenger Yachts (PAXYs) must comply with the requirements for recovery of persons in the water as implemented through Marine Notice 2-011-13, *International Safety Management (ISM) Code*.

- 1.4 For vessels subject to the ISM Code, Companies and Masters must list equipment referenced within the life-saving appliances onboard maintenance schedule of SOLAS Regulation III/36.
- 1.5 For yachts not subject to the ISM Code, the plans and procedures must be incorporated through the Mini-ISM system as laid out in the RMI Yacht Code ([MI-103](#)).

2.0 Verification

Recognized Organizations (ROs) and Appointed Representatives (ARs) are required to confirm that plans and procedures to recover persons from the water exist onboard and that the listed equipment is in satisfactory condition. This will be carried out during the statutory survey of safety equipment (initial, annual, periodical, renewal) or Compliance Verification (initial, annual or renewal), as applicable.

3.0 Compliance

Vessels found not to comply with the SOLAS Regulation III/17-1 or RMI requirements according to this Notice may be subject to restrictions until compliance is demonstrated.