



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

## MSN 1770 (F)

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# The Fishing Vessels Code of Safe Working Practice for the Construction and Use of 15 metre length overall (LOA) to less than 24 metre registered length (L) Fishing Vessels

Notice to Designers, Builders, Owners, Employers, Skippers and Crew of Fishing Vessels

*This Notice should be read in conjunction with the Fishing Vessels (Safety of 15-24 Metre Vessels) Regulations SI 2002.*

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### *Summary*

This notice draws attention to the Fishing Vessels (Safety of 15-24 Metre Vessels) Regulations 2002 and incorporates the full text of the Code of Safe Working Practice for the Construction and Use of 15 metre (LOA) to less than 24 metre (L) Fishing Vessels.

1. This Merchant Shipping Notice is associated with The Fishing Vessels (Safety of 15-24 Metre Vessels) Regulations 2002. It sets out the full text of the Code of Safe Working Practice for the Construction and Use of 15 metre (LOA) to less than 24 metre (L) Fishing Vessels (the Code).
2. The Regulations give statutory force to the Code and replaces the requirements of the following Regulations as they apply to fishing vessels from 15 metres (LOA) to less than 24 metres (L):
  - the Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975;
  - the Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation)(Fishing Vessels) Regulations 1975;
  - the Fishing Vessels (Life Saving Appliance) Regulations 1988.
3. The Regulations and the Code have been introduced following consultation with the industry and other interested bodies and represents the second stage of a wider review of requirements aimed at increasing the safety of fishing vessels and survival of the crew in the event of an accident.
4. To comply with the Code, vessel owners will be required to:
  - to meet the requirements for the construction and use of fishing vessels as set out in the Code;
  - complete the annual self-certification in the form laid out in Annex 2 of the Code;
  - present new vessels for survey during and on completion of construction, or on transfer to the UK Register prior to issue of a UK certificate;
  - present the vessel for renewal survey at intervals not exceeding 5 years;
  - present the vessel for inspection mid point in the survey cycle;
  - to present the vessel for survey prior to completing major repairs or modifications.

5. Additional guidance is contained in Marine Guidance Note MGN224(F) and outlines the main statutory requirements and responsibilities for new and existing vessels.
6. Fishing Vessels between 12 metres in registered length and less than 15 metres length overall will, from 23 November 2002,

have to comply with the revised Code of Practice for Small Fishing Vessels. MSN 1756 Amendment No. 1 amends MSN 1756(F) – “The Fishing Vessel Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Fishing Vessels under 12 metres in length” and introduces the new requirements for these vessels.

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**Department  
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Maritime and Coastguard Agency

**THE CODE OF  
SAFE WORKING PRACTICE FOR  
THE CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF  
15 METRE (LOA) TO LESS THAN  
24 METRE (L) FISHING VESSELS**

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## CHAPTER 1 (GENERAL)

### 1.1 FOREWORD

- 1.1.1 This Code applies to all fishing vessels, registered in the UK, of 15 metres length overall (LOA) to less than 24 metres registered length (L) in accordance with The Fishing Vessels (Safety of 15 - 24 Metre Vessels) Regulations 2002 and will enter into force on 23 November 2002.
- 1.1.2 Development of the Code by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency was carried out in consultation with the Technical Sub-Group of the Fishing Industry Safety Group.
- 1.1.3 The aim in developing the Code was to set standards of safety and protection for all on board fishing vessels. The Code sets minimum standards for construction, machinery, equipment and stability and, in conjunction with health and safety legislation and periodical survey requirements, for the safe maintenance and operation of fishing vessels in service.
- 1.1.4 The provisions of the Code supersede those previously applied under:
- The Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975 as amended;
  - The Fishing Vessels (Life Saving Appliances) Regulations 1988 as amended;
  - The Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation)(Fishing Vessels) Regulations 1975 as amended.
- 1.1.5 The Code also gives effect, in part, to the provisions of Council Directive 93/103/EEC.
- 1.1.6 In addition to the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, the following legislation, as amended, is relevant to fishing vessels that are covered by this Code:
- SI 1972, No. 919 The Merchant Shipping(Crew Agreements, List of Crew and Discharge of Seamen)(Fishing Vessels) Regulations;
  - SI 1981, No. 570 The Merchant Shipping (Official Log books)(Fishing Vessels) Regulations;
  - SI 1984, No. 1115 The Fishing Vessels (Certification of Deck Officers and Engineer Officers) Regulations;
  - SI 1988, No. 1656 The Loading and Unloading of Fishing Vessels Regulations;
  - SI 1988, No. 1909 The Merchant Shipping (Fishing Vessels - Tonnage) Regulations;
  - SI 1989, No. 126 The Fishing Vessels (Safety Training) Regulations;
  - SI 1995, No. 1802 The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Medical Stores) Regulations;
  - SI 1996, No. 75 The Merchant Shipping (Distress Signals and Prevention of Collisions) Regulations;
  - SI 1997, No. 2962 The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations;
  - SI 1998, No. 2411 The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work)(Employment of Young Persons) Regulations;
  - SI 1998, No. 2857 The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Manual Handling Operations) Regulations;
  - SI 1999, No. 2205 The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Personal Protective Equipment) Regulations;



SI 1999, No.3210 The Merchant Shipping (Radio)(Fishing Vessels) Regulations;

SI 2001, No. 3444 The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Safety Signs and Signals) Regulations.

- 1.1.7 In some sections within this Code, a reminder is given of the requirements of existing regulations. In those cases the purpose of this Code is not to impose any separate regulatory requirement, but only to provide a reference to the requirements that are contained within those other regulations.
- 1.1.8 Where in some sections of the Code, there is reference to any action or standard that is recommended, in those cases the purpose of this Code is not to impose any separate regulatory requirement.
- 1.1.9 Supplementary guidance, instructions and information for fishing vessels is contained in current Merchant Shipping Notices, Marine Guidance Notes and Marine Information Notes.

## 1.2 DEFINITIONS

- 1.2.1 In the Code, except where the context otherwise indicates:
- 1.2.2 “‘A’ class divisions” means those divisions formed by bulkheads and decks that are:
- i) constructed of steel or other equivalent material;
  - ii) suitably stiffened;
  - iii) so constructed as to be capable of preventing the passage of smoke and flame to the end of the 60 minute standard fire test; and
  - iv) so insulated where necessary with suitable non-combustible materials such that, if the division is exposed to the standard fire test, the average temperature of the unexposed side of the division will rise not more than 139° centigrade above the initial temperature nor will the temperature at any one point, including any joint, rise more than 180° centigrade above the initial temperature within the time listed below:  
A-60 standard 60 minutes  
A-30 standard 30 minutes  
A-0 standard 0 minutes
- 1.2.3 “Accommodation spaces” means corridors and lobbies, stairways, lavatories, cabins, offices, crew spaces, pantries not containing cooking appliances and spaces similar to any of the foregoing and trunks to such spaces;
- 1.2.4 “Amidships” is the mid-length of Length between Perpendiculars (LBP);
- 1.2.5 “Approved” means:
- i) in relation to hull and machinery construction and arrangements:
    - approved by the Certifying Authority or one of the following organisations:  
American Bureau of Shipping  
Bureau Veritas  
Det Norske Veritas

Germanischer Lloyd  
Lloyd's Register of Shipping  
Registro Italiano Navale  
Sea Fish Industry Authority

- ii) in relation to life saving appliances:
    - approved by MCA or a signatory Administration to SOLAS 1974 as amended or, in relation to any equipment or arrangement, by one of the nominated bodies having powers as delegated by The Merchant Shipping (Delegation of Type Approval) Regulations, SI 1996 No. 147;
  - iii) in relation to stability:
    - approved by MCA.
- 1.2.6 "B' class divisions" means those divisions formed by bulkheads, decks, ceilings or linings that:
- i) are so constructed as to be capable of preventing the passage of flame to the end of the first 30 minutes of the standard fire test;
  - ii) have an insulation value such that during the standard fire test the average temperature of the unexposed side will not rise more than 140° centigrade above its initial temperature, nor will its temperature at any one point, including any joint, rise more than 225° centigrade above its initial temperature within the time listed below:

B-15 standard	15 minutes
B-0 standard	0 minutes
  - iii) are constructed of suitable non-combustible materials and their supporting members or structures are also constructed of non-combustible materials;
- 1.2.7 "Breadth (B)" is the maximum breadth of the vessel, measured to the moulded line of the frame in a vessel with a metal shell and to the outer surface of the hull in a vessel with a shell constructed of any other material;
- 1.2.8 "Certifying Authority" means the MCA;
- 1.2.9 "Classification Society" means a Classification Society listed in M Notice No. 1672;
- 1.2.10 "Code" means this Code, unless another Code is specified;
- 1.2.11 "Control stations" are those spaces in which the ships radio or main navigation equipment or the emergency source of power is located, or where the fire recording or fire control equipment is centralised;
- 1.2.12 "Crew" means any person carrying out an occupation on board a vessel, including trainees and apprentices but excluding shore personnel carrying out work on board a vessel at the quayside and port pilots;
- 1.2.13 "Crew space" means crew accommodation within the meaning of section 43(7) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995;
- 1.2.14 "Deadship condition" is the condition under which the main and auxiliary machinery are not in operation due to the absence of starting power;

- 1.2.15 “Decked vessel” means a vessel with a continuous watertight freeboard deck that extends from stem to stern and has positive freeboard throughout, in any condition of loading of the vessel;
- 1.2.16 “Deckhouse” or “Superstructure” means a permanent enclosed structure fitted on the freeboard or superstructure deck;
- 1.2.17 “Depth” means the moulded depth;
- 1.2.18 “Draught” means the vertical distance from the moulded base line amid-ships to the operating water line of a vessel;
- 1.2.19 “Enclosed superstructure” means a superstructure with:
- i) enclosing bulkheads of efficient construction;
  - ii) access openings, if any, in those bulkheads fitted with permanently attached weathertight doors of a strength equivalent to the unpierced structure that can be operated from either side; and
  - iii) other openings in sides or ends of the superstructure fitted with efficient weathertight means of closing;
- 1.2.20 “Equivalent material” used in the expression “steel or other equivalent material” means any non-combustible material which, by itself or due to insulation provided, has structural and integrity properties equivalent to steel at the end of the applicable exposure to the standard fire test (e.g. aluminium alloy with appropriate insulation);
- 1.2.21 “Existing vessel” means a fishing vessel the keel of which was laid or the construction commenced before 23 November 2002;
- 1.2.22 “F” class divisions means those divisions formed by bulkheads, decks, ceilings or linings that:
- i) are so constructed as to be capable of preventing the passage of flame to the end of the first 30 minutes of the standard fire test; and
  - ii) have an insulation value such that during the standard fire test the average temperature of the unexposed side will not rise more than 139° centigrade above its initial temperature, nor will the temperature at any one point, including any joint, rise more than 225° centigrade above the original temperature, up to the end of the first 30 minutes of the standard fire test;
- The Certifying Authority may require a test of a prototype division, in accordance with the procedures detailed in the Fire Test Procedures Code, to ensure that it meets the above requirements for integrity and temperature rise;
- 1.2.23 “Fire Test Procedures Code” means the IMO Code for Application of Fire Test Procedures;
- 1.2.24 “Fishing vessel” has the same meaning as in section 313 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995;
- 1.2.25 “Float-free” in relation to life saving appliances means that method whereby the appliance is automatically released from a sinking vessel and is ready for use;
- 1.2.26 “Freeboard” means the distance measured vertically downwards from the upper edge of the freeboard deck to the waterline;

- 1.2.27 “Freeboard deck” means the lowest complete deck above the deepest operating waterline from which fishing is undertaken. In vessels fitted with two or more complete decks, the Certifying Authority may accept a lower deck as the freeboard deck provided that the deck is situated above the deepest operating waterline;
- 1.2.28 “Independent” in relation to a pump, means a pump operated by power source other than from the vessel’s main engines;
- 1.2.29 “Inspection” means an inspection conducted between between 24 months and 36 months from the date of issue of the first or most recent full term fishing vessel certificate;
- 1.2.30 “Length overall (LOA)” means the overall length from the foreside of the foremost fixed permanent structure to the aftside of the aftermost fixed permanent structure of the vessel;
- 1.2.31 “Length (L)” in relation to a vessel, means the registered length shown on the vessel’s register and as defined in The Merchant Shipping (Fishing Vessels - Tonnage) Regulations SI 1988, No.1909;
- 1.2.32 “Length between perpendiculars” (LBP) is the ITC ‘69 definition which means 96% of the total length on a waterline of a vessel at 85% of the least moulded depth measured from the top of the keel, or the length from the fore-side of the stem to the axis of the rudder stock on that waterline, if that be greater. In vessels designed with a rake of keel the waterline on which this is measured should be parallel to the designed waterline. The forward perpendicular and the after perpendicular are positioned at the forward and after ends of LBP respectively;
- 1.2.33 “Lifebuoy” means a lifebuoy complying with the requirements of SOLAS 1974 as amended;
- 1.2.34 “Lifejacket” means a lifejacket complying with the requirements of SOLAS 1974 as amended or as approved by the MCA;
- 1.2.35 “Liferaft” means a liferaft complying with the requirements of SOLAS 1974 as amended;
- 1.2.36 “Line throwing appliance” means an appliance complying with the requirements of SOLAS 1974 as amended;
- 1.2.37 “Low flame spread” means that the surface thus described will adequately restrict the spread of flame, this being determined in accordance with the IMO Fire Test Procedures Code;
- 1.2.38 “Machinery space” means the main engine room;
- 1.2.39 “MCA” means The Maritime and Coastguard Agency, an executive agency of the Department for Transport;
- 1.2.40 “Merchant Shipping Act 1995” references to the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 or to rules or regulations which are made or have effect as if made under that Act, are to that act or to those rules or regulations respectively as amended at the date of this Code coming into force;
- 1.2.41 “Marine Guidance Note” (MGN), “Merchant Shipping Notice” (MSN) and “Marine Information Note” (MIN) means a Note or Notice described as such and issued by the MCA;

- 1.2.42 “Moulded depth” means the vertical distance measured at the mid point of LBP from the top of the keel to the top of the freeboard deck beam at side. In wood and composite vessels the distance is measured from the lower edge of the keel rabbet. Where the form at the lower part of the midship section is of a hollow character, or where thick garboards are fitted, the distance is measured from the point where the line of the flat of the bottom continued inwards cuts the side of the keel. In vessels:
- i) having rounded gunwales the moulded depth should be measured to the point of intersection of the moulded lines of the deck and side shell plating, the lines extending as though the gunwale were of angular design; and
  - ii) where the freeboard deck is stepped and the raised part of the deck extends over the point at which the moulded depth is to be determined, the moulded depth should be measured to a line of reference extending from the lower part of the deck along a line parallel with the raised part;
- 1.2.43 “Navigable speed” means the minimum ahead speed at which the vessel can be effectively steered;
- 1.2.44 “New vessel” means a fishing vessel, the keel of which was laid or the construction commenced on or after 23 November 2002;
- 1.2.45 “Non-combustible material” means material that neither burns nor gives off flammable vapours in sufficient quantity for self-ignition when heated to a temperature of 750°C, this being determined in accordance with the IMO Fire Test Procedures Code;
- 1.2.46 “Owner” means the registered owner of a vessel, unless that vessel has been chartered by demise or is managed, either wholly or in part, by a natural or legal person other than the registered owner under the terms of a management agreement; in that case, the owner shall be construed as the demise charterer or natural or legal person managing the vessel as appropriate;
- 1.2.47 “Power unit” means:
- i) in the case of electric steering gear, the electric motor and its associated electrical equipment; or
  - ii) in the case of electro-hydraulic steering gear, the electric motor, its associated electrical equipment and connected pump;
- 1.2.48 “Rocket parachute flare” means a pyrotechnic signal complying with the requirements of SOLAS 1974 as amended;
- 1.2.49 “Sea” in the context of ‘at sea’ means all waters outside a safe haven and “safe haven” means a harbour or shelter of any kind which affords entry, subject to prudence in the weather conditions prevailing, and protection from the forces of weather;
- 1.2.50 “Self-activating smoke signal” means a signal complying with the requirements of SOLAS 1974 as amended;
- 1.2.51 “Self-igniting light” means a light complying with the requirements of SOLAS 1974 as amended;
- 1.2.52 “Service spaces” include galleys containing cooking appliances, lockers and store rooms, paint rooms, workshops (other than those forming part of machinery spaces) and similar spaces;

- 1.2.53 “Skipper” means the crew member who commands the vessel or has responsibility for it;
- 1.2.54 “SOLAS 1974 as amended” means the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended at 23 November 2002;
- 1.2.55 “Standard fire test” is a test in which a specimen of the relevant bulkhead or deck is exposed in a test furnace to temperatures corresponding approximately to a standard time – temperature curve in accordance with the IMO Fire Test Procedures Code;
- 1.2.56 “Standards” such as BS (British Standard), EN (European Standard accepted by the European Committee for Standardisation, CEN), IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) and ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) identified in the Code for reference purposes, should include any standards that amend or replace them;
- 1.2.57 “Superstructure” or “Deckhouse” means a permanent enclosed structure fitted on the freeboard or superstructure deck;
- 1.2.58 “Superstructure deck” means that complete or partial deck or the top of a superstructure, deckhouse or other erection situated at a height of more than 1.8 metres above the freeboard deck;
- 1.2.59 “Survey” means either an initial survey or a renewal survey conducted at a maximum period of 5 years from the recorded date of issue of the previous UK fishing vessel certificate;
- 1.2.60 “Survival craft” means a craft capable of sustaining the lives of persons in distress from the time of abandoning the vessel;
- 1.2.61 “UK fishing vessel” means a fishing vessel which meets the criteria set out in section 85(2)(a) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995;
- 1.2.62 “UK Fishing Vessel Certificate” means a certificate issued in respect of a fishing vessel under this Code, refer to Annex 1;
- 1.2.63 “Vessel” means a new or existing fishing vessel;
- 1.2.64 “Watertight” in relation to a structure means capable of preventing the passage of water through the structure in any direction under a head of water for which the surrounding structure is designed;
- 1.2.65 “Weather deck” means the main deck that is exposed to the elements;
- 1.2.66 “Weathertight” means that in any sea conditions water will not penetrate into the vessel.

### 1.3 APPLICATION AND INTREPRETATION

#### 1.3.1 Application

- 1.3.1.1 The Code applies to all fishing vessels, registered in the UK, of 15 metres in length overall to less than 24 metres registered length and will enter into force on 23 November 2002.

- 1.3.1.2 It is recognised that in a number of areas it would be impractical for existing vessels to comply fully with the new provisions for construction and permanently fitted equipment. Alternative arrangements or provisions for existing vessels are identified individually for each section or paragraph affected. E
- 1.3.1.3 With reference to section 1.3.1.2, owners of existing vessels may, and are recommended to, comply with the Code as it applies to new vessels, instead of complying with the alternative arrangements or provisions identified in the Code for existing vessels. In such cases, the vessel should generally comply with all the relevant provisions relating to new vessels in that part of the Code. However, provided that an overall improvement in safety is achieved (as compared with the standard achieved by compliance with the alternative arrangements or provisions), the vessel will be taken to comply with this Code if it complies with some rather than all the relevant provisions in that part of the Code. E
- 1.3.1.4 Exemptions previously granted to vessels under the provisions of the Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975, as amended, will continue to apply and be recorded on the certificate unless otherwise required in the Code. The conditions associated with those exemptions are individual vessel provisions and need to be met for compliance with the Code. E
- 1.3.1.5 The application of the Code to new and existing vessels is indicated within the body of the text by means of the following convention:
- i) Normal text: section is applicable to new and existing vessels;
  - ii) *Text in italics, N at right margin: section is applicable to new vessels only;*
  - iii) **Text in bold format, E at right margin: section is applicable to existing vessels only**
- 1.3.1.6 Where any provision of the Code is expressed in the conditional (ie. “should”) then this provision shall be a requirement.
- 1.3.1.7 Where a provision in this Code requires equipment, machinery, an arrangement or any other thing to be “to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority”, this means that the Certifying Authority is to determine whether the equipment or machinery etc is suitable for its purpose and satisfies the requirements of this Code.

### 1.3.2 Compliance with Code Requirements

- 1.3.2.1 To comply with the Code the vessel owner is responsible for ensuring that the vessel:
- i) is built, equipped, surveyed, certified and maintained and operated in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Code;
  - ii) is subjected to annual self-certification inspections in accordance with section 1.3.7;
  - iii) continues to comply with the requirements of the Code in service;
  - iv) is operated by appropriately qualified and certificated crew who have completed mandatory training courses; and
  - v) is not operated as a fishing vessel without a valid UK fishing vessel certificate being in force.

### 1.3.3 Arrangements for Vessels Operating Solely within Categorised Waters

1.3.3.1 Vessels operated solely within categorised waters, as defined in Merchant Shipping Notice No. M1758(M) – Categorisation of Waters, may, as an alternative to complying with this Code, comply with the requirements of The Fishing Vessels (Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Fishing Vessels) Regulations 2001 and have equipment provided onboard, as required for a decked vessel of the maximum length that is covered by that Code.

### 1.3.4 Surveys, Inspections and Certification

1.3.4.1 Every vessel should be surveyed and inspected in accordance with the requirements of this Section:

- i) an initial survey during and on completion of construction, or on transfer to the UK register prior to the issue of a UK Fishing Vessel Certificate;
- ii) certificate renewal surveys at intervals not exceeding 5 years;
- iii) an inspection in accordance with 1.3.6 below;
- iv) surveys during major repairs or modifications;
- v) annual self-certification by the owner or a delegated representative.

1.3.4.2 Applications for survey or inspection should be made by or on behalf of the owner of the vessel to the Certifying Authority giving reasonable notice, for the survey or inspection to be carried out, at the port agreed with the Certifying Authority.

1.3.4.3 A vessel may be examined by the MCA at any time to verify compliance with Code requirements.

### 1.3.5 Initial Surveys, Surveys for Renewal of Certificates and Surveys during Repairs

1.3.5.1 A surveyor appointed by the Certifying Authority should survey the vessel in order to verify that the vessel complies with the requirements of the Code and such regulations as may apply to it. The surveyor may require the vessel and any of its machinery, fittings, equipment or arrangements to be submitted to such tests and examinations as are considered necessary to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the Code.

1.3.5.2 On completion of the survey, the surveyor should provide the MCA with a declaration of survey and a record of particulars in an agreed format.

1.3.5.3 Two copies of the record of particulars should be sent to the owner of the vessel on completion of survey, one copy of which should be placed on board for inspection at subsequent surveys.

1.3.5.4 **When extensive repairs, modifications or alterations are carried out on an existing vessel, then any such work should comply with the requirements of this Code, as applicable to a new vessel, to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.** E



### 1.3.6 Inspections of Fishing Vessels

1.3.6.1 Every vessel having a valid United Kingdom Fishing Vessel Certificate should be inspected not less than 24 months and not more than 36 months from the recorded date of the vessel's initial or previous renewal survey, by a surveyor or inspector of the Certifying Authority. The inspection should verify that the vessel continues to comply with the requirements of the Code.

1.3.6.2 When a satisfactory inspection has been carried out, the inspector should endorse the Fishing Vessel Certificate accordingly.

### 1.3.7 Annual Self-Certification

1.3.7.1 In addition to compliance with the survey and inspection requirements that are detailed in sections 1.3.5 and 1.3.6 above, the owner or a delegated representative should check the vessel annually, at intervals of not more than 12 months, to confirm that:

- i) all fire fighting appliances, life saving appliances and safety equipment that are carried on board the vessel have been suitably maintained and are within date;
- ii) the Radio equipment is functioning correctly;
- iii) the shipborne navigational equipment, nautical publications and lights, shapes and sound signal appliances, that are required for compliance with The Merchant Shipping (Distress Signals and Prevention of Collisions) Regulations SI 1996, No. 75, are carried on board and are functioning correctly;
- iv) the risk assessment (see section 6.1.2) remains appropriate to the vessel's fishing method and mode of operation;
- v) no known alteration, damage or deterioration to the vessel or its equipment has occurred in service that would affect the vessel's compliance with the requirements of the Code or the vessel's stability;
- vi) weathertight doors and hatches are functioning correctly; and
- vii) crew training and certification are valid.

1.3.7.2 On completion of each annual check, the owner should sign a declaration (in the format detailed in Annex 2) confirming compliance with section 1.3.7.1 above and retain the declaration for subsequent inspection.

### 1.3.8 Certification

#### 1.3.8.1 Issue and form of UK Fishing Vessel Certificates

1.3.8.1.1 If the Certifying Authority is satisfied that a vessel has been duly surveyed in accordance with the provisions of this Code and is found to comply with the requirements of the Code and other relevant regulations issued under the powers of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995; a UK Fishing Vessel Certificate, in the format set out in Annex 1, will be issued by the MCA to the owner of the vessel.

### 1.3.8.2 **Duration of certificates**

1.3.8.2.1 A United Kingdom Fishing Vessel Certificate may remain in force for 5 years from the date of its issue or such shorter period as may be specified by the Certifying Authority, unless extended or cancelled under sections 1.3.8.3 or 1.3.8.4 respectively.

### 1.3.8.3 **Extension of certificates**

1.3.8.3.1 The Certifying Authority may, in exceptional circumstances, extend the validity of a UK Fishing Vessel Certificate for a period not exceeding two months.

1.3.8.3.2 Subsequent Fishing Vessel Certificates should be dated to correspond with the original Fishing Vessel Certificate before such an extension.

### 1.3.8.4 **Cancellation of certificates**

1.3.8.4.1 The Certifying authority may cancel a United Kingdom Fishing Vessel Certificate if satisfied:

- i) that any declaration of survey on which the certificate was founded has been in any particular made fraudulently or erroneously;
- ii) that the certificate has been issued based upon false or erroneous information;
- iii) that since the issue of the certificate, the hull, equipment or machinery have sustained any damage or are otherwise inadequate for their intended service;
- iv) that the vessel has been significantly modified or changed its mode of fishing without due authorisation;
- v) that the certificate has not been endorsed in the manner set out in section 1.3.6;
- vi) that another Fishing Vessel Certificate has been issued in respect of the vessel;
- vii) that the vessel has ceased to be registered as a fishing vessel in the United Kingdom; or
- viii) that a vessel classed with a Classification Society is not maintained in Class.

## 1.3.9 **Change of Ownership**

1.3.9.1 Risk assessments of the vessel are particular to each owner. When a vessel is sold, the new owner must complete, or arrange for the completion of, a new risk assessment and new annual self certification.

### 1.3.10 Detention and Penalties

1.3.10.1 A vessel that is found, in the course of inspection, or survey, not to have been equipped, maintained, assessed or self-certificated in accordance with the Code will be liable to detention under The Fishing Vessels (Safety of 15 - 24 Metre Vessels) Regulations 2002. An owner who operates a vessel that does not comply with the Code, or who makes a false declaration, may be liable to prosecution. A skipper who fails to operate the vessel in accordance with the requirements of the Code may be liable to prosecution.

### 1.3.11 Certifying Authorities

1.3.11.1 The MCA is the Certifying Authority. However, other organisations that are so authorised by MCA may appoint persons for the purpose of surveying vessels for ascertaining compliance with Code provisions for hull construction, machinery installations, watertight integrity, openings, pipework, bilge pumping, anchors, cables and electrical installations.

### 1.3.12 Appeal Procedures

1.3.12.1 If an owner is dissatisfied with the results of a survey or inspection, or the issue of a certificate has been refused, or for any other reason and agreement cannot be reached with the attending surveyor, the owner may refer the matter to the Principal Marine Surveyor (Fishing Vessels) in the Region in which the vessel was inspected.

1.3.12.2 Should the above procedure fail to resolve the dispute, the owner may refer the matter to the Head of Maritime Operations at MCA headquarters, and, if necessary, to the MCA Chief Executive.

1.3.12.3 If an owner is still not content with the way in which the dispute has been handled, the owner may serve notice, within twenty-one days of the completion of the procedure given in section 1.3.12.2, on the MCA that their dispute be referred a single arbitrator appointed by agreement between MCA and the owner.

1.3.12.4 A person should not be qualified for appointment as an arbitrator unless that person is:

- i) a person holding a certificate of competency as a deck officer, marine engineer or equivalent;
- ii) a naval architect;
- iii) a person with special experience of the fishing industry;
- iv) a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators; or
- v) a person holding a Certificate of Competency (Fishing Vessels) Class 1.

1.3.12.5 The final allocation of costs will depend on the arbitrator's decision. If the decision is in the favour of the owner, the arbitrator may award the owner such compensation as the arbitrator thinks fit in addition to allocating costs.

### 1.3.13 Standards for Vessels “Flagging-in” to UK Registration

1.3.13.1 *New vessels should comply with the provisions of the Code wherever the place of construction or origin.* N

1.3.13.2 **Before applying to register an existing vessel in the UK, owners are advised to consider the consequences of compliance with the Code. Owners are recommended to seek early advice from their technical consultants and MCA prior to making any commitment for registering a vessel that has not been constructed under the survey of a Classification Society or other organisation with delegated powers granted by a Marine Administration. Vessels will be considered for compliance with the Code for the purposes of UK registration on the following basis:**

- (i) **The vessel is registered as a fishing vessel in a British Crown Dependency (i.e. Isle of Man and Channel Islands); or**
- (ii) **The vessel complied with the relevant UK safety requirements for hull construction at the time of build; or**
- (iii) **The vessel is certified as being in Class; or**
  - (a) **the owner is able to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the MCA, that the vessel’s structural strength, equipment and machinery are adequate for the intended purpose; and**
  - (b) **a verifiable record of safe operation for the intended mode of fishing can be provided by the vessel owners.** E

### 1.3.14 Transitional Arrangements on Entry into Force of the Code

1.3.14.1 **On entry into force of the Code, previously valid certificates issued in accordance with the Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975 (Form MSF 1300) will remain valid until their date of expiry, subject to the vessel and its equipment being maintained and in compliance with the conditions of the vessel’s current Record of Particulars, (Form FV2).** E

1.3.14.2 **Alternatively, owners of vessels with previously valid four-year certificates with at least 24 months before expiry, may apply to the Certifying Authority for the issue of a new certificate which should remain in force for 5 years from the date of completion of the previous survey. Issue of the new certificate will be subject to a satisfactory inspection in accordance with section 1.3.6** E

### 1.3.15 Updating the Code

1.3.15.1 In cases where a question of interpretation of part of the Code arises, or guidance is required on the standards to be applied for compliance, advice may be obtained on written application to the MCA or by calling the Code telephone Helpline on 0845 6014072.

1.3.15.2 The Code provisions will be reviewed and reconsidered not later than five years following its entry into force to take into account experience gained from its application. MCA will consult with and consider recommendations of a standing committee under the auspices of the Fishing Industry Safety Group.

- 1.3.15.3 When new standards are developed and finalised by the British Standards Institution (BSI) or any international body which impact upon the provisions of the Code, amendment may be considered immediately.

## CHAPTER 2 (CONSTRUCTION & WATERTIGHT INTEGRITY)

### 2.1 CONSTRUCTION AND STRUCTURAL STRENGTH

#### 2.1.1 General Requirements for Structural Strength

2.1.1.1 The structural strength and construction of every fishing vessel and the disposition of bulkheads should be adequate for all foreseeable operating conditions in service. The scantlings, arrangements and construction for the hull, bulkheads, superstructures, deckhouses, machinery casings, companionways and other structures should be sufficient to withstand all operational loads arising during the vessel's service and should be to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

2.1.1.2 The owners are to inform the Certifying Authority if the vessel is to be operated in areas subject to sea ice conditions. Hull construction and stability requirements will be specially considered for vessels operating in such areas.

#### 2.1.2 Construction Materials

2.1.2.1 *A vessel may be constructed of wood, fibre reinforced plastic (FRP), aluminium alloy or steel or appropriate combinations of such materials.* N

2.1.2.2 *Proposals to use any other construction material should be submitted to the Certifying Authority for consideration and approval.* N

#### 2.1.3 New Vessels

2.1.3.1 *Hull construction and arrangement drawings should be reviewed and approved by the Certifying Authority.* N

2.1.3.2 *The hull should be surveyed during construction by the Certifying Authority to verify compliance with the approved drawings. An appropriate certificate of construction should be issued on completion of build.* N

#### 2.1.4 Existing Vessels

2.1.4.1 **An existing vessel will be considered to be of acceptable structural strength if it is a UK fishing vessel and the Certifying Authority has determined that it is in a good state of repair for the purposes of this Code.** E

#### 2.1.5 Decks

##### 2.1.5.1 Freeboard deck

2.1.5.1.1 The freeboard deck should be of watertight construction and should extend from stem to stern with positive freeboard throughout in any condition of loading of the vessel.

2.1.5.1.2 The freeboard deck may be stepped, recessed or raised provided the stepped, recessed or raised portion is of watertight construction.

2.1.5.1.3 *Minimum requirements for freeboard are given in section 3.2.* N

### 2.1.5.2 Weather deck

2.1.5.2.1 The weather deck may be the freeboard deck or other watertight deck above that is exposed to the weather.

### 2.1.6 Watertight Bulkheads

2.1.6.1 *Vessels should be provided with a watertight collision bulkhead in the fore part of the vessel positioned to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.* N

2.1.6.2 **The bulkhead arrangement of an existing vessel is acceptable provided that such arrangement continues to remain efficient in service.** E

2.1.6.3 *The main and auxiliary machinery essential for the propulsion and safety of the vessel should be situated in a watertight machinery compartment with watertight bulkheads provided at the fore and aft positions of that space.* N

2.1.6.4 *Such bulkheads should extend up to the freeboard deck and the number of openings fitted therein should be the minimum compatible with the safe operational requirements of the vessel.* N

2.1.6.5 *The strength of the bulkheads should be adequate to withstand a head of water to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.* N

2.1.6.6 *In vessels constructed of wood, a collision bulkhead and bulkheads at the fore and aft ends of the machinery space, should be provided. The after bulkhead of the machinery space may terminate on a horizontal, flat that extends aft to the stern, above the line of shafting. The bulkheads and flat referred to in this section should be of adequate strength and gasketed and/or caulked to prevent significant leaks or flooding.* N

2.1.6.7 *When it is necessary for pipes, cables, etc. to penetrate watertight bulkheads, arrangements should be made to maintain the watertight integrity of the bulkhead in way of such penetrations. The collision bulkhead should have valves fitted to all pipe penetrations and these should be capable of operation from a readily accessible position.* N

2.1.6.8 *A door fitted in a watertight bulkhead should be of watertight construction and be kept closed at sea.* N

2.1.6.9 *Doors are not permitted in the collision bulkhead unless fitted in a bulkhead extension above the freeboard deck, such doors may be of weathertight construction and should be kept closed at sea.* N

### 2.1.7 Watertight Doors

2.1.7.1 The number of doors fitted in any watertight bulkhead should be the minimum compatible with the normal operation of the ship. Every such door should be efficiently constructed and be watertight when closed.

2.1.7.2 Doors of hinged or sliding type may be used except that doors of the hinged type will only be allowed when there is no operational requirement for the door to be kept open at sea, such doors should be operable from both sides. Sliding type doors should be operable from an accessible position above the freeboard deck.

- 2.1.7.3 All doors should be capable of being efficiently operated when the vessel is listed up to 15 degrees either way.

## 2.2 WATERTIGHT AND WEATHERTIGHT INTEGRITY

### 2.2.1 Openings and Closing Arrangements

- 2.2.1.1 The number of openings in the watertight structure of the vessel should be the minimum consistent with its safe and practical operation and, when fitted such openings should be provided with effective closing arrangements in accordance the requirements of this Code.
- 2.2.1.2 *Hatches and doorways which may be open at sea, should normally be arranged as near as practicable to the vessel's centreline. Due consideration should be given to the risk of down flooding* N
- 2.2.1.3 Particular attention should be paid to ensure that accesses and openings to machinery spaces are protected by strong and efficient structures which should contain weathertight or watertight means of closure, dependent on the position of the opening.
- 2.2.1.4 *Vessels with a wheelhouse fitted directly on the freeboard deck should be provided with a suitable means of closure to any freeboard deck opening within the wheelhouse space. Additionally the means of drainage of the wheelhouse space should preferably be directly overboard.* N
- 2.2.1.5 *Wheelhouses which are fitted over structures above the freeboard deck should have arrangements to allow water to rapidly drain down to the freeboard deck and then directly over the side.* N
- 2.2.1.6 Openings in the freeboard or exposed weather decks should be properly framed and efficiently enclosed by either superstructures, casings of adequate strength or hatch covers meeting the requirements of section 2.2.2.
- 2.2.1.7 Coaming heights appropriate to the position of the openings should be provided as in section 2.2.4.
- 2.2.1.8 *Openings in weathertight boundaries for warps or wires used in fishing operations should be kept as small as practicable and should not be submerged with a vessel heel of up to 40 degrees.* N

### 2.2.2 Hatchway Covers

- 2.2.2.1 A hatchway that gives access to spaces below the freeboard deck should be of efficient construction and be provided with effective means of weathertight closure.
- 2.2.2.2 A coaming height appropriate to the position of the hatch opening should be provided as in section 2.2.4.
- 2.2.2.3 *A cover to a hatchway may be of hinged, rolling or sliding type and should be permanently secured to the structure of the vessel. Every such cover should be fitted with gaskets and clamping devices, or other equally effective means that are both sufficient to retain the cover in position and ensure weathertight integrity when closed. Discharge hatches that are not open at sea may be of the "lift-off" type, provided they are weathertight when closed.* N



- 2.2.2.4 *For new vessels the covers should be of steel or equivalent material and of sufficient strength to accommodate the expected service loading.* N
- 2.2.2.5 **The covers provided on an existing vessel will be acceptable provided they continue to remain efficient in service.** E
- 2.2.2.6 Weathertight hatches on exposed freeboard and superstructure decks should be kept closed at sea, when not in use.
- 2.2.3 **Weathertight Doors**
- 2.2.3.1 All access openings in the external bulkheads of enclosed superstructures and other outer structures protecting openings in the freeboard deck should be fitted with doors of steel or other equivalent material. These doors should be permanently and strongly attached to the bulkhead and so framed, stiffened and fitted that the whole structure of which they are part, is of equivalent strength to the unpierced bulkhead and weathertight when closed. The means for securing these doors weathertight should consist of gaskets and clamping devices or other equivalent means, permanently attached to the bulkhead or to the doors themselves and arranged so that they may be operated easily and rapidly from each side of the bulkhead.
- 2.2.3.2 A coaming height appropriate to the position of the door should be provided as in section 2.2.4.
- 2.2.3.3 Weathertight doors on the freeboard deck should normally be kept closed at sea.
- 2.2.4 **Heights of Hatchway Coamings and Sills to Weathertight Doors**
- 2.2.4.1 *Subject to section 2.2.4.2, every hatchway and door sill on the exposed freeboard deck should have a coaming of substantial construction and the height of the coaming above the deck should not be less than 460 millimetres. On exposed first tier superstructure decks the height of the coamings should not be less than 100 millimetres.* N
- 2.2.4.2 *The height of the hatch coamings specified in section 2.2.4.1 may be reduced, or the coamings omitted, provided the safety of the vessel is not thereby impaired and provided that watertight covers are fitted. Such covers should be kept as small as reasonably practicable, be permanently attached by hinges or equivalent means and capable of being rapidly closed watertight.* N
- 2.2.4.3 *Coamings may also be reduced or omitted for hatches that are provided on freeboard decks when the hatchway is positioned within a shelter, superstructure or deckhouse provided that such spaces are maintained weathertight whilst at sea and providing that flooding hazards will not arise due to activities within those spaces.* N
- 2.2.4.4 *The heights of sills to doors provided in exposed companionways, superstructures, deckhouses and machinery casings that give access to spaces leading below the freeboard deck should not be less than those specified for hatchway coamings in section 2.2.4.1 for a similar position. For other spaces the heights of door sills may be reduced provided:*

- i) *there is no access to spaces leading below the freeboard deck; and*
- ii) *the spaces are small; and*
- iii) *provided the safety of the vessel is not thereby impaired.* N

2.2.4.5 *The heights of coamings or sills may be required to be increased when a freeboard of less than that required by section 3.2 has been accepted.* N

2.2.4.6 *Flush type deck scuttles, hatches or manholes may be fitted to exposed freeboard or superstructure decks provided they are of watertight construction, are closed at sea and are permanently attached to the hull.* N

2.2.4.7 **The coaming heights for doors and hatches on existing vessels should be maintained in accordance with the requirements of The Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975.** E

## 2.2.5 Sidescuttles (Portholes) and Windows

2.2.5.1 Side scuttles to spaces below the freeboard deck and to enclosed superstructures, deckhouses or companionways on the freeboard deck should be fitted with hinged deadlights capable of being closed watertight.

2.2.5.2 Every side scuttle should be fitted in a position such that its sill is above a line drawn parallel to the freeboard deck at side having its lowest point 1 metre above the highest load waterline.

2.2.5.3 Side scuttles liable to damage from fishing gear or equipment should be suitably protected.

2.2.5.4 Side scuttles, glasses and deadlights should meet the requirements of ISO 1095, ISO 1751 and ISO 5780, type B (medium duty grade), in respect of nominal size and toughened safety glass thickness, or an equivalent standard.

2.2.5.5 Side scuttles fitted in exposed areas and in the forward bulkheads of freeboard deck erections should be of the non-opening type.

2.2.5.6 Windows should not be fitted below the freeboard deck.

2.2.5.7 If windows are fitted in the forward or after bulkheads of exposed freeboard deck erections, they should be provided with efficient means of protection.

2.2.5.8 Windows and their frames should meet the requirements of ISO 3903, ISO 3254 and ISO 5779, type E (heavy duty grade), in respect of nominal size and toughened safety glass thickness, or an equivalent standard.

2.2.5.9 Wheelhouse windows should not be fabricated using polarised or tinted glass, although portable tinted screens may be employed if desired. Recommendations are contained in M Notice 760 – Tinted Glass for Wheelhouse and Bridge Front Windows.

## 2.2.6 Scuppers, Inlets and Discharges

- 2.2.6.1 *The number of inlets and discharges should be kept to the operational minimum.* N
- 2.2.6.2 *Each scupper or discharge leading through the hull from spaces below the freeboard deck or from within an enclosed superstructure or deckhouse on the freeboard deck should have an automatic non-return valve fitted at the hull with a positive means of closure from an accessible position.* N
- 2.2.6.3 *Each sea inlet valve should be fitted with a positive means of closure from an accessible position.* N
- 2.2.6.4 *In machinery spaces, controls for main and auxiliary sea inlets essential for the operation of machinery may be controlled locally. The controls should be readily accessible, above the floor plates, and be provided with indicators showing whether the valves are open or closed.* N
- 2.2.6.5 **If valves are not fitted above the floor plates, rapid and practical means should be provided to allow for the valve to be operated from floor plate level.** E
- 2.2.6.6 *Soil and other waste water drainage should be so arranged and fitted with such water seals, air vents and storm valves as are necessary to prevent siphoning, blowback or ingress of water. The hull closing arrangements should be as detailed in section 2.2.6.2.* N
- 2.2.6.7 *If scuppers from open decks penetrate the hull below the freeboard deck they should be made from piping of substantial thickness.*
- 2.2.6.8 *Refer also to sections 4.1.11 (Seawater Systems), 4.3.2.10 and 4.3.2.11 (Bilge Systems) and 11.1.3 (Pollution).*
- 2.2.6.9 **Existing vessel arrangements will continue to be acceptable provided that valves fitted at hull penetrations remain both accessible and efficient in service.** E

## 2.2.7 Ventilators

- 2.2.7.1 *The minimum height above deck of ventilators, other than machinery space ventilators, should be 760 millimetres on an exposed freeboard deck, and 450 millimetres on an exposed first tier superstructure deck.*
- 2.2.7.2 *Machinery space ventilators should be led as high as is reasonable and practicable and preferably be fitted well inboard, the angle of initial downflooding to the machinery spaces should not be less than 40 degrees.* N
- 2.2.7.3 *All ventilators should be of substantial construction and be provided with permanently attached means of weathertight closure except that weathertight closing appliances need not be fitted to ventilators with coamings extending more than 4.5 metres above the freeboard deck or more than 2.3 metres above the superstructure deck. Fireflaps should be fitted in such coamings in accordance with section 5.1.4 (Ventilation Systems).*

- 2.2.7.4 Refer also to sections 4.1.14 (Ventilation), 5.1.4 (Ventilation Systems), 5.1.7 (Means for Stopping Machinery), 5.1.8.4.8 (Mechanical Ventilation), 5.1.8.9.2 (Ventilation of Hazardous Compartments), 6.1.7 (Ventilation of Workplaces), 10.1.1.2, 10.1.1.4 and 10.1.2.7 (Ventilation of Crew Accommodation).

## 2.2.8 Air Pipes

- 2.2.8.1 The lowest point at which water might gain access through an air pipe should be not less than 760 millimetres above the exposed freeboard deck nor less than 450 millimetres above the exposed superstructure deck. The exposed portions of the air pipes should be of substantial construction.
- 2.2.8.2 A reduced height may be accepted if it can be shown that the rule air pipe height would interfere with essential vessel operations and provided that an adequate height above the deck is maintained. Alternatively consideration may be given to relocating the air pipe inboard.
- 2.2.8.3 Air pipes should be provided with an efficient means of weathertight closure and provision should be made to prevent overpressure or vacuum occurring when the tanks are being filled or emptied.
- 2.2.8.4 Refer also to sections 4.1.13.3, 4.1.13.5, 4.1.13.7, 8 & 9 and 5.1.8.3.2 & 3 (Air Pipes to Fuel Tanks).

## 2.3 WATER FREEING ARRANGEMENTS

### 2.3.1 General

- 2.3.1.1 When freeboard or first tier superstructure decks are fitted with bulwarks, deck houses, erections or other arrangements such that wells are formed and shipped water may be retained onboard, then ample provision should be made for rapidly freeing the decks of this water and for draining them.
- 2.3.1.2 The means by which this water is freed may be by freeing ports, open rails, scuppers or other suitable arrangement.
- 2.3.1.3 In a vessel in which freeing ports cannot be fitted, other efficient means of clearing trapped water from the vessel should be provided to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

### 2.3.2 Freeing Ports

- 2.3.2.1 *Where bulwarks on weather parts of the working deck form wells, the minimum freeing port area (A) in square metres, on each side of the vessel for each well on the working deck should be determined in relation to the length (l) and height of bulwark in the well as follows:*

i)  $A = K \times l$  (*l need not be taken as greater than 0.7 L*).

*Where K = 0.07 for vessels of 24 metres in length*

*K = 0.035 for vessels of 12 metres in length*

*L = registered length of vessel*

*The value of K should be obtained by linear interpolation from between the two values of lengths given above.*

- ii) (a) *Where the bulwark is more than 1200 millimetres in average height the required area should be increased by 0.004 square metres per metre of length of well for each 100 millimetres difference in height.*
- (b) *Where the bulwark is less than 900 millimetres in average height, the required area may be decreased by 0.004 square metres per metre of length of well for each 100 millimetres difference in height.* N
- 2.3.2.2 *The freeing port area calculated according to section 2.3.2.1 should be increased where the Certifying Authority considers that the vessel's sheer is not sufficient to ensure that the deck is rapidly and effectively freed of water.* N
- 2.3.2.3 *Subject to the approval of the Certifying Authority the minimum freeing port area for each well on the superstructure deck should be not less than one-half the area (A) given in section 2.3.2.1.* N
- 2.3.2.4 Freeing ports should be so arranged along the length of bulwarks as to ensure that the deck is freed of water most rapidly and effectively. Lower edges of freeing ports should be as near the deck as practicable.
- 2.3.2.5 Poundboards and means for stowage of the fishing gear should be arranged so that the effectiveness of freeing ports will not be impaired. Poundboards should be so constructed that they can be locked in position when in use and should not hamper the discharge of shipped water.
- 2.3.2.6 *Freeing ports over 300 millimetres in depth and length greater than 450 millimetres should be fitted with bars spaced not more than 230 millimetres nor less than 150 millimetres apart or provided with other suitable protective arrangements. Freeing port covers, if fitted, should be of suitable construction. If devices are considered necessary for locking freeing port covers during fishing operations they should be arranged to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority and easily operable from a readily accessible position.* N
- 2.3.2.7 In vessels intended to operate in areas subject to icing, covers and protective arrangements for freeing ports should be capable of being easily removed to restrict ice accretion. The size of openings and means provided for removal of these protective arrangements should be to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.
- 2.3.2.8 *If deck erections within a well limit the volume of water that may be retained onboard then the freeing port area may be reduced proportionally provided that such erections do not in themselves contribute to water retention.* N
- 2.3.2.9 **On existing vessels the areas of freeing ports and their arrangements will continue to be accepted provided that such arrangements continue to remain efficient in service.** E

## CHAPTER 3 (STABILITY AND FREEBOARD)

### 3.1 STABILITY

#### 3.1.1 General

- 3.1.1.1 All vessels should be provided with approved stability information to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority for the conditions of service for which the vessel is intended.
- 3.1.1.2 The approved stability information should contain the information and particulars that are detailed in Annex 3.
- 3.1.1.3 **Existing vessels, for which satisfactory stability characteristics have been demonstrated by means of roll testing, should carry the results of the most recent roll test onboard in lieu of the approved stability information that is required by section 3.1.1.1.** E
- 3.1.1.4 All vessels should be sufficiently stable when intact in the conditions of service for which they are intended.
- 3.1.1.5 The skipper should take the precautionary measures necessary to maintain adequate stability of the vessel.
- 3.1.1.6 Information on the vessel's stability should be available on board and accessible to those on watch.
- 3.1.1.7 Instructions supplied concerning the vessel's stability should be strictly observed by those on watch.

#### 3.1.2 Stability Criteria

- 3.1.2.1 Vessels should, for the operating conditions and circumstances set out in Annex 3 including icing allowances when applicable, and in all foreseeable operating conditions, satisfy the following stability criteria after due correction for the free surface effects of liquids in tanks:
- i) the area under the curve of righting levers (GZ curve) should not be less than:
    - (a) 0.055 metre-radians up to an angle of 30 degrees;
    - (b) 0.090 metre-radians up to an angle of 40 degrees or such lesser angle of heel at which the lower edges of any openings in the hull, superstructures, deckhouses or companionways, being openings that cannot be closed weathertight, are immersed;
    - (c) 0.030 metre-radians between the angles of heel of 30 degrees and 40 degrees or such lesser angle as defined in (ii) above;
  - ii) the righting lever (GZ) should be at least 200 millimetres at an angle of heel equal to or greater than 30 degrees;
  - iii) the maximum righting lever (GZ) should occur at an angle of heel not less than 25 degrees;
  - iv) in the upright position the transverse metacentric height (GM) should not be less than 350 millimetres;

- 3.1.2.2 For vessels engaged on single or twin boom fishing the values of dynamic stability, righting lever and metacentric height given in sections 3.1.2.1 i), ii) and iv) respectively should be increased by 20%.

**3.1.3 Lightship Particulars**

- 3.1.3.1 *The vessels lightship particulars should be determined by inclining on completion of building to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.* N

- 3.1.3.2 The vessels lightship details should be verified at certificate renewal to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

- 3.1.3.3 The carriage of unnecessary spare gear, stores and parts, the accumulation of debris and the cumulative effects of minor modifications over time can adversely affect the vessel's lightship weight and centre of gravity. Attention should be made to limiting these effects if lightship growth and the possibility of adverse effects on the vessel's stability are to be avoided.

**3.1.4 Vessel Modifications Affecting Stability**

- 3.1.4.1 Modifications or alterations affecting the vessel's structure, the removal or repositioning of equipment, changes in the vessel's mode of fishing and/or its gear or the fitting of additional equipment should be investigated, prior to making any changes, to ensure that the vessel will continue to comply with the required stability criteria. In addition such modifications or alterations should only be carried out after consultation and with the approval of the Certifying Authority.

**3.1.5 Lifting Operations**

- 3.1.5.1 Particular care should be taken to ensure that the vessel retains adequate stability at all times during the course of any lifting operation.

- 3.1.5.2 *For vessels with lifting equipment, a sketch of the rig (arrangement, length of derricks and weight of gear) that is provided onboard should be appended to the vessel's Trim and Stability Manual.* N

- 3.1.5.3 *The Trim and Stability Manual should also include a calculation that indicates the maximum theoretical heel angle that will be produced when the fishing gear, excluding catch, is statically deployed on one side of the vessel, with both derricks at their maximum outreach. This is intended to provide a reference throughout the vessel's working life. The calculation should be carried out for the vessel in the 'arrive fishing grounds' condition.* N

**3.2 FREEBOARD**

- 3.2.1 Every vessel should be so designed, constructed and operated as to ensure that in all foreseeable operating conditions the freeboard will be adequate to provide:

- i) compliance with the stability criteria set out in this section;
- ii) appropriate safety for the crew working on deck;
- iii) appropriate safety to the vessel from the entry of water into enclosed spaces having regard to the closing appliances fitted

- 3.2.2 The minimum freeboard at any point along the freeboard deck ( $H_{min}$ ) should be not less than:  
 $H_{min} = LBP/40$  (where LBP is length between perpendiculars) N
- 3.2.3 The minimum freeboard criteria should be checked at the time of initial build, flag in or after substantial modifications have been made to the vessel. At renewal survey the minimum freeboard should be not less than that required to comply with the stability criteria or 300 millimetres, whichever is greater. N
- 3.2.4 Where a vessel is fitted with bulwarks of at least 1 metre high, extending at least 0.15L abaft the forward perpendicular, the minimum bow height of the freeboard deck above the deepest operational waterline at the forward perpendicular ( $H_{f_{min}}$ ) should be not less than:  
 $H_{f_{min}} = 0.75 + 6.6LBP/240$  N
- 3.2.5 Where the bulwark height is less than 1 metre, the minimum bow height should be increased accordingly. N
- 3.2.6  $H_{f_{min}}$  may, in cases where a weathertight forecastle is fitted that extends at least 0.07LBP abaft the forward perpendicular, be measured to the top of the forecastle deck plating. N
- 3.2.7 The minimum freeboard aft (measured at the after perpendicular) ( $H_{a_{min}}$ ) should not be less than:  
 $H_{a_{min}} = 0.24 + LBP/37.5$  N
- 3.2.8 For vessels with shelters, that do not meet the minimum freeboard requirement, then such shelters should be of weathertight construction up to the next deck level (ie. with weathertight doors and hatches, no permanent openings or freeing ports but with suitable drainage being provided). N
- 3.2.9 Additionally for vessels with particular modes of operation, in which the application of the above minimum freeboard criteria are considered to be unrealistic, then the arrangements may be specially considered and accepted by the Certifying Authority provided that equivalent safety is maintained. N
- 3.2.10 In such circumstances the coaming heights of doors, hatches, ventilators and air pipes would need to be raised above the rule minimum by an amount equivalent to the freeboard deficiency. N
- 3.2.11 **The freeboards on existing vessels will continue to be accepted providing they are maintained in accordance with The Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975. E**

### 3.3 DRAUGHT MARKS

- 3.3.1 Every vessel should have scales of draughts permanently and clearly marked in metric units on the sides of the vessel at the bow and where they can be easily read at the stern.
- 3.3.2 The datum and longitudinal positioning of the draught marks should be indicated by means of sketches in the vessels trim and stability manual, similarly the position of the datum for the vessel's hydrostatics data should be correlated to the position of the draught marks datum. The positioning of the draught marks should be verified by the Certifying Authority.



## CHAPTER 4 (MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS)

### 4.1 MACHINERY

#### 4.1.1 General Requirements

- 4.1.1.1 Machinery installations should comply with the general requirements given below and to the requirements of the Certifying Authority. Other installations proposed may be specially considered, provided that full information is presented to and approved by the Certifying Authority. Attention is drawn to Chapter 11, Clean Seas, regarding prevention of pollution.

#### 4.1.2 Machinery Installations

- 4.1.2.1 Machinery and pressure vessels should be of a design and construction adequate for the service for which they are intended (fit for purpose) and be efficiently installed (taking into account the manufacturer's guidance) and protected so as to minimise any danger to persons on board. Due regard should be given to moving parts, hot surfaces and other hazards.
- 4.1.2.2 Machinery spaces should be designed to provide safe and free access to all parts of the machinery that may require servicing at sea.
- 4.1.2.3 Main and auxiliary machinery essential for the propulsion and safety of the vessel should be provided with effective means of control. The machinery should be capable of being brought into operation from the "deadship" condition.
- 4.1.2.4 Where risk from over-speeding of machinery exists, provisions should be made to ensure that the safe speed is not exceeded.
- 4.1.2.5 Machinery spaces that will be periodically unattended at sea should be provided with proper alarm, detection and machinery control systems.
- 4.1.2.6 Means should be provided to prevent overpressure in any part of the machinery and pressure vessels (refer to section 4.1.5).
- 4.1.2.7 Main engines controlled from the engine room, should also be controlled from a separate area, soundproofed and insulated from the engine room and accessible without entering the engine room.
- 4.1.2.8 The wheelhouse is considered to be an area that meets the requirements of section 4.1.2.7.
- 4.1.2.9 To ensure safety of personnel, it should be possible to start and stop the main engine(s) from the engine room, in addition to any wheelhouse control.

#### 4.1.3 Means for Going Ahead and Astern

- 4.1.3.1 Every vessel should have adequate power for going ahead and astern to maintain proper control of the vessel in all foreseeable service conditions.
- 4.1.3.2 *The main propulsion machinery and all auxiliary machinery essential to the propulsion and the safety of the vessel should be designed to operate when the vessel is upright and when inclined at any angle of heel and trim up to and including 22.5 degrees and 7.5 degrees respectively, either way under dynamic conditions.* N

#### 4.1.4 Engine Starting

- 4.1.4.1 Main or auxiliary engines should be capable of being started from the dead-ship condition without external aid. Such means should be either hydraulic, air, hand or electric starting or other means acceptable to the Certifying Authority.
- 4.1.4.2 Main engine starting arrangements should be adequate to start the main engine or engines not less than six times successively.
- 4.1.4.3 When the sole means of starting is by battery, provision should be made, via a change over switch, to make available an alternative battery as a safeguard for starting. Charging facilities should be available for the batteries in accordance with the requirements of section 4.2.9.
- 4.1.4.4 Every vessel in which machinery essential for the propulsion and safety of the vessel is required to be started, operated or controlled solely by compressed air, should be provided with an efficient air system, including an adequate number of air compressors and air storage receivers and should be so arranged as to ensure that an adequate supply of compressed air is available under all foreseeable service conditions.

#### 4.1.5 Air Pressure Systems

- 4.1.5.1 Air pressure systems should be designed, constructed and pressure tested to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.
- 4.1.5.2 Means should be provided to prevent excess pressure in any part of compressed air systems and wherever water-jackets or casings of air compressors and coolers might be subjected to dangerous excess pressure due to leakage into them from air pressure parts. Suitable pressure-relief arrangements should be provided.
- 4.1.5.3 The main starting air arrangements for main propulsion internal combustion engines should be adequately protected against the effects of backfiring and internal explosion in the starting air pipes.
- 4.1.5.4 All discharge pipes from starting air compressors should lead directly to the starting air receivers and all starting pipes from the air receivers to main or auxiliary engines should be entirely separate from the compressor discharge pipe system.
- 4.1.5.5 Provision should be made to reduce to a minimum the entry of oil into the air pressure systems and to drain these systems.
- 4.1.5.6 Compressed air systems should be well maintained, examined at regular intervals and appropriately certified.

#### 4.1.6 Propeller Shafts

- 4.1.6.1 Every propeller shaft should be designed and constructed to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority, to withstand the maximum working stresses to which it may be subjected, with a factor of safety that is adequate having regard to:
  - i) the material of which it is constructed;

- ii) the service for which it is intended;
- iii) the type and size of prime mover or motor by which it is driven or of which it forms a part.

#### 4.1.7 Gearboxes

4.1.7.1 Where fitted, gearboxes should be suitable for the intended purpose and installed and maintained in an efficient manner, to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

#### 4.1.8 Propeller and Stern Gear

4.1.8.1 As appropriate to the vessel, the propeller materials and design in total (including shaft brackets, propeller securing, bearings, stern-tube and thrust block) and supporting structures should correspond to the operating conditions for the vessel. Design, construction and fitting standards should be to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

#### 4.1.9 Controllable Pitch Propellers

4.1.9.1 Where any vessel is equipped with a controllable pitch propeller, the propeller and its control gear should be adequate having regard to the intended service of the vessel and be to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

#### 4.1.10 Exhaust Systems

4.1.10.1 Exhaust pipes and silencers of every internal combustion engine should be adequately cooled or lagged to protect persons on board the vessel. Oil and fuel pipes should be kept as clear as practicable from exhaust pipes and turbochargers.

#### 4.1.11 Cooling Water and Other Seawater Systems

4.1.11.1 All new or replacement installations of sea water piping and fittings for cooling water systems should be of aluminium bronze, cupro-nickel or similar corrosion resistant material.

4.1.11.2 'Heavy wall' mild steel pipe for 'cross vessel' inlet mains may be used, provided that the internal diameter is 100 millimetres or greater and the pipe is galvanised internally after all fabrication work is complete.

4.1.11.3 Care should be taken to ensure that galvanic corrosion effects from dissimilar metals are prevented, by such means as isolation packing, washers and sleeves between the flanges and fasteners joining pipes.

4.1.11.4 Recommendations may also be found in MGN 190 (F): Fishing Vessels – The Premature Failure of Copper Pipes in Engine Cooling Water Systems.

4.1.11.5 Sea water pipes, wherever practicable, should be connected by means of bolted flanges, visible and readily accessible for maintenance and inspection purposes as done in section 4.1.12.4.

**Existing vessels should be fitted with such arrangements whenever seawater pipework is renewed. E**

- 4.1.11.6 Where cooling water services are essential for the cooling of the propelling machinery, alternative means of circulating water should be provided in the event of failure of the primary source. Such alternative means should be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.
- 4.1.11.7 Sea water suctions of cooling systems essential for internal combustion machinery should be provided with strainers suitably arranged so that they may be cleaned without interrupting the supply.
- 4.1.11.8 *New vessels should be fitted with at least two main seawater cooling inlets, with one inlet fitted on each side of the vessel (except when fitted with 'keel cooling' arrangements).* N
- 4.1.11.9 Refer also to section 2.2.6 (Scuppers, Inlets and Discharges)

#### 4.1.12 Fuel, Lubricating and Hydraulic Systems (fire hazards)

- 4.1.12.1 Pipes used to convey lubricating oil, cooling oil or hydraulic oil should be made of seamless steel or other suitable material and should be properly installed. Pipes, joints and fittings, other than those fitted in hydraulic control systems, should, before being put into service for the first time, be subjected to a test by hydraulic pressure to twice their maximum working pressure and at any time thereafter should be capable of withstanding such a test.
- 4.1.12.2 Main engine lubricating oil filters, capable of being readily dismantled for cleaning or replacement, should be provided. Sufficient spare filter elements should be carried on board.
- 4.1.12.3 Adequate means should be provided for indicating failure of the main engine lubricating oil system.
- 4.1.12.4 The length of any flexible pipework in the engine room should be as short as possible according to the service conditions.  
  
*In new vessels it is recommended that such lengths should not exceed 1500 millimetres.* N
- 4.1.12.5 *Where flexible hydraulic pipes are fitted to new vessels within a high fire risk area, such pipes should be fire proof and capable of withstanding a fire test to 800° centigrade for 30 minutes. One of the following standards may be used to verify such a test:*  
  
*BS ISO 15540:1999 – Fire resistance of hose assemblies – Test methods; and*  
*BS ISO 15541:1999 – Fire resistance of hose assemblies – Requirements for the test bench.* N
- 4.1.12.6 *The construction requirements of flexible hoses fitted within high fire risk area should comply with one of the following British Standards (BS):*  
  
*BS EN 853:1997 Rubber covered wire braided reinforced hydraulic type.*  
*BS EN 856: 1997. Rubber covered spiral wire reinforced hydraulic type* N
- 4.1.12.7 Equivalent or higher standards may be accepted by the Certifying Authority.

- 4.1.12.8 Where the failure of a flexible pipe or connection could result in oil being sprayed onto a source of ignition, then spray/splash guards should be fitted.
- 4.1.12.9 **Existing vessels should comply with sections 4.1.12.5, 4.1.12.6 and 4.1.12.7 whenever systems are renewed or fitted.** **E**
- 4.1.12.10 All hydraulic pumps should be fitted with a remote stop facility.
- 4.1.12.11 Where tubular gauge glasses are fitted to lubricating oil or hydraulic oil tanks they should be of substantial construction, adequately protected and, where the capacity of the tank exceeds 40 litres, they should be fitted with self-closing arrangements on the tank.
- 4.1.12.12 Hydraulic oil tanks with a capacity greater than 65 litres should comply with section 4.1.13.11
- 4.1.12.13 Hydraulic oil storage tanks directly supplying pumps may, in place of section 4.1.13.11, be accepted with automatic non-return valves (which may be integral with the pump), provided that the pumps can be stopped remotely. Any flexible pipes/hoses fitted should comply with sections 4.1.12.5 and 4.1.12.6 (above) and if fitted between the pump and the storage tank, they should be located and protected such that in the event of hose failure, hydraulic oil will not come into contact with an ignition source.
- 4.1.12.14 *Hydraulic oil storage tanks, with a capacity greater than 65 litres, should be fitted with an alarm to detect leakage from the system.* **N**

#### 4.1.13 Oil Fuel Installations

- 4.1.13.1 Oil fuel used in machinery should have a flash point of not less than 60° centigrade (Closed Cup Test).
- 4.1.13.2 Oil fuel tanks should be properly constructed and provided with save-alls or gutters in way of valves and fittings. Such tanks should not be situated directly above engines, heated surfaces, stairways, ladders or electrical equipment other than unbroken runs of cable. Prior to installation, tanks should be subjected to a suitable pressure test to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.
- 4.1.13.3 Means should be provided for measuring the contents of oil fuel tanks and means provided to prevent overpressure in such tanks. The sounding arrangements or oil level indicating gear fitted to settling tanks or daily service tanks should not permit the escape of oil if these tanks are overfilled. Oil level indicators should not allow oil to escape in the event of their being damaged.
- 4.1.13.4 Oil fuel, lubricating oil and other flammable oils should not be carried in fore peak shell tanks.
- 4.1.13.5 Fuel filling and venting pipes should be constructed of steel, adequately supported and of sufficient dimensions to prevent spillage during filling. A venting pipe should be led to the open atmosphere terminating in a position level with or higher than the fuel filling mouth and where there is no danger of fire or explosion resulting from the emergence of oil vapour from the pipe (refer also to section 2.2.6). The open end of the pipe should be protected against:

- i) water ingress - by ball float or equivalent means;
  - ii) flame ingress - by a corrosion resistant gauze mesh (that can be detached for cleaning).
- 4.1.13.6 **Existing vessels may be accepted with other suitable means of protection, if arranged to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.** E
- 4.1.13.7 Where pipes also serve as overflow pipes, provision should be made to prevent pollution of the sea.
- 4.1.13.8 The overflow should not run into or near a machinery space, galley or other space where ignition may occur.
- 4.1.13.9 Air pipes from oil fuel tanks and levelling pipes attached to tanks should have a net cross-sectional area not less than 1.25 times that of the filling pipes.
- 4.1.13.10 Self-closing type drains should be provided for the removal of water from oil fuel in storage tanks or settling tanks or in oily water separators.
- 4.1.13.11 Means should be provided to isolate a source of fuel (either fuel or oil, capacity greater than 65 litres) that may feed a fire in an engine space. A valve or cock, capable of being closed from a position outside the engine space, should be fitted in the fuel feed pipe as close as possible to the tank and in an accessible position. Tanks to be considered for such an arrangement are those fitted with an outlet valve which may be left open during normal operation of the vessel. Inlet and re-circulation valves should be of the non return type.
- 4.1.13.12 *Electric driven fuel and oil pumps should be fitted with a remote stop at a suitable position outside the machinery space* N
- It is recommended that existing vessels are fitted with such an arrangement.** E
- 4.1.13.13 *Save-all(s) or equivalent means of containment of spillage should be provided below fuel pump(s), auxiliary engines, oil pumps and filter(s).* N
- Existing vessels should be fitted with such arrangements, as far as practicable.** E
- 4.1.13.14 Fuel supply lines to main propulsion and essential auxiliary machinery should be provided with duplicate filters, so constructed that either filter may be dismantled for cleaning without disrupting the fuel supply through the filter in use.
- 4.1.13.15 Oil fuel filling points should be so arranged that oil fuel will not readily be spilled, overflow, drain or lodge in any space.
- 4.1.13.16 Pipes used to convey fuel oil should, wherever possible, be made of seamless steel or other suitable material and should be properly installed, taking into consideration vibration and chafing. Pipes, joints and fittings should, before being put into service for the first time, be subjected to a test by hydraulic pressure to twice their maximum working pressure, and at any time thereafter should be capable of withstanding such a test. Where fitted, flexible pipes should comply with section 4.1.12.5, to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

4.1.13.17 Where tubular gauge glasses are fitted to oil fuel tanks they should be of substantial construction, adequately protected and fitted with self-closing arrangements on the tank.

4.1.14 **Ventilation**

4.1.14.1 Adequate means of efficiently ventilating the engine room under all operating conditions, with doors and hatches closed, should be provided.

4.1.15 **Refrigerating Plant**

4.1.15.1 Refrigerating plants should be of a design and construction adequate for the service for which they are intended and should be so installed and protected as to reduce to a minimum any danger to persons on board. Refrigerant detection sensors, compatible with the refrigerant being used, are recommended to be fitted (where practicable).

4.1.15.2 Ammonia, methylchloride or chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs, with ozone depleting potential higher than 5% of CFC-11) should not be used as refrigerants.

4.1.15.3 Where refrigerating plants are installed they should be maintained in an efficient working condition and examined at regular intervals.

4.1.16 **Spare Gear**

4.1.16.1 Adequate spares should be provided for normal operation of the main machinery, auxiliary machinery and electrical equipment, having regard to the intended service of the vessel. Such spares should include fuel filters, oil filters, temporary means of repairing pipework, seawater pump spares, bilge pump spares, tool-kit, fuses and light bulbs.

4.2 **ELECTRICAL ARRANGEMENTS**

4.2.1 **General**

4.2.1.1 The electrical arrangements should be such as to minimise the risk of fire and electric shock and satisfy the requirements of the Certifying Authority. The installation should also be designed and constructed so as to ensure the proper functioning of all equipment necessary to maintain the vessel in normal operational and living conditions without recourse to an emergency power supply.

4.2.1.2 Tanks, machinery or other metallic objects that do not have good electrical continuity with the water surrounding the vessel should have special earthing arrangements to reduce potential risk.

4.2.1.3 *For general guidance, a number of the most common standards that are appropriate to a small vessel are listed in section 4.2.6. Other standards that are considered more appropriate and safe for a particular application may also be used for guidance* N

4.2.2 **Systems**

4.2.2.1 *DC Systems should be of the two wire insulated type, with double pole switches used.* N

**Other DC systems on existing vessels are acceptable.**

**E**

- 4.2.2.2 *It is recommended that AC systems are of the insulated neutral type.* N
- 4.2.2.3 Hull return systems for earth monitoring and impressed current systems are acceptable.
- 4.2.2.4 For vessels with systems of 50 volts or less, the insulation resistance should be at least 0.3 megohm. For vessels with systems greater than 50 volts, the insulation resistance should be at least 1.0 megohm. A low voltage instrument should be used for testing to avoid the possibility of damage.
- 4.2.2.5 *Insulated neutral distribution systems should be continuously monitored by suitable means.* N
- 4.2.2.6 All circuits except the main supply from the battery to the starter motor and electrically driven steering motors, should be provided with electrical protection against overload and short circuit, (i.e. circuit breakers should be installed). Short circuit protection should be for not less than twice the total rated current load in the circuit protected.

#### 4.2.3 **Distribution Systems**

- 4.2.3.1 Main and emergency switchboards should be suitably guarded and arranged to provide easy access without danger to any person. Adequate non-conducting mats or gratings should be provided. Exposed parts that may have a voltage between conductors or to earth exceeding 55 volts should not be installed on the face of any switchboard or control panel.
- 4.2.3.2 Where two or more generating sets may be in operation at the same time for providing the auxiliary services essential for the propulsion and safety of the vessel each generator should be arranged to supply such essential services and means should be provided to trip automatically sufficient non-essential load when the total current exceeds the connected generator capacity. It should be possible to connect such generators in parallel whilst maintaining continuity of electrical supply.
- 4.2.3.3 Cable systems and electrical equipment should be so installed as to reduce interference with radio reception to a minimum.

#### 4.2.4 **Lighting**

- 4.2.4.1 Lighting circuits should be distributed through the spaces so that a total blackout cannot occur due to the failure of a single protective device.
- 4.2.4.2 Where general lighting is provided by a single centralised source, an alternative source of lighting should also be provided sufficient to enable persons to make their way to the open deck or to permit work on essential machinery.
- 4.2.4.3 Emergency lighting should be provided to illuminate the wheelhouse, the machinery space, all means of escape, the survival craft launching and embarkation areas and man-overboard rescue equipment and rescue areas.
- 4.2.4.4 *The stroboscopic effect of fluorescent lighting should be avoided.* N



#### 4.2.5 Hazardous Spaces

- 4.2.5.1 Electrical equipment, other than lighting, should not normally be installed in a space where petroleum vapour or other hydrocarbon gas may accumulate. When electrical equipment is unavoidably installed in such a space, it must comply with a recognised standard for prevention of ignition of the flammable atmosphere and wherever possible, switches should be fitted outside that space.

#### 4.2.6 Reference Standards

- 4.2.6.1 *The Institution of Electrical Engineers Regulations for the Electrical and Electronic Equipment of Ships with Recommended Practice for their Implementation, 6th Edition 1990 and subsequent supplements.* N
- 4.2.6.2 *BS 6883(1999), Specification for elastomer insulated cables for fixed wiring in vessels. (Suitable for lighting, power, control, instrumentation and propulsion circuits)* N
- 4.2.6.3 *IEC 600 92-350, Low-voltage shipboard power cables. (General construction and test requirements for shipboard cables with copper conductors intended for low-voltage power systems at voltages up to and including 0.6/1kV.)* N
- 4.2.6.4 *ISO 10133, Small Craft - Electrical systems - Extra-low voltage D.C. installations.* N
- 4.2.6.5 *ISO 13297, Small Craft - Electrical systems - Alternating current installations.* N
- 4.2.6.6 *BS EN 28846, Small Craft - Electrical devices - Protection against ignition of surrounding flammable gases.* N

#### 4.2.7 Electrical Precautions

- 4.2.7.1 Electrical equipment should be so constructed and installed that there will be no danger to any person handling it in a proper manner.
- i) Subject to section ii), where electrical equipment is to be operated at a voltage in excess of 55 volts the exposed metal parts of such equipment that are not intended to have a voltage above that of earth, but which may have such a voltage under fault conditions, should be earthed;
  - ii) Exposed metal parts of portable electrical lamps, tools and similar apparatus, to be operated at a voltage in excess of 55 volts should be earthed through a conductor in the supply cable unless, by the use of double insulation or a suitable isolating transformer, protection at least as effective as earthing through a conductor is provided.
- 4.2.7.2 Fixed electrical cable should be of a flame retarding type. All metal sheaths and armour of any electric cable should be electrically continuous and should be earthed. Electric cable that is neither metal sheathed nor armoured should, if installed where its failure might cause a fire or explosion, be effectively protected.
- 4.2.7.3 Wiring should be supported in such a manner as to avoid chafing or other damage (refer to section 4.2.6 above).

- 4.2.7.4 Joints in all electrical conductors except those in low voltage communications circuits should be made only in junction or outlet boxes or by a suitable method such that it retains the original mechanical, flame retarding and electrical properties of the cable. Junction or outlet boxes should be so constructed as to confine the spread of fire.
- 4.2.7.5 Lighting fittings should be so arranged that the rise in temperature will not damage the associated wiring or cause a fire risk in the surrounding materials, especially where fitted at the head of bunk beds.
- 4.2.7.6 Every lighting circuit terminating in a fish hold or similar space should be provided with an isolating switch positioned outside that space.

#### 4.2.8 **Equipment and Installation Requirements**

- 4.2.8.1 *Where electrical power is the only means for maintaining auxiliary services essential for propulsion or safety of the vessel, a main source of electrical power should be provided comprising of at least two independent generators, one of which may be driven by the main engine. Such services should be capable of being provided when any one of the sources of electrical power is out of operation.* N

**Existing arrangements for existing vessels will continue to be accepted. E**

- 4.2.8.2 The power rating of each of the generators required in section 4.2.8.1 should be sufficient to simultaneously supply the essential services required for propulsion, navigation and safety of the vessel. Such services include lighting, communications, bilge pumps, steering gear, fire pumps and navigation lights.

- 4.2.8.3 The output of any generator or alternator driven by a variable speed engine should be based on the lowest operational speed of the engine. Throughout the entire operating engine speed range, the generator or alternator should operate within its safe speed range.

- 4.2.8.4 *Sources of electrical power should be so arranged to operate efficiently in the conditions detailed in section 4.1.3.2.* N

**Existing arrangements for existing vessels will continue to be accepted. E**

- 4.2.8.5 Where transformers form an essential part of the supply system, they should be arranged to ensure continuity of supply.

- 4.2.8.6 *Main and emergency lighting systems should be such that a fire or other incident in the spaces containing either source of supply will not render the other system inoperable.* N

#### 4.2.9 **Accumulator (Storage) Batteries**

- 4.2.9.1 Accumulator (storage) batteries should be housed in boxes, trays or compartments that are constructed to provide protection of the batteries from damage and ventilated to outside atmosphere to reduce the accumulation of explosive gas to a minimum. Where fans are fitted in exhaust ducts from compartments assigned principally to the storage of batteries they should be of a flameproof type. Electrical arrangements liable to arc should not be installed in any compartment used principally for the storage of accumulator batteries. Lead acid and nickel alkaline batteries should not be housed in the same space.

#### 4.2.10 Emergency Power Source

4.2.10.1 An emergency electrical power source should be located outside the engine room and should, in all cases, be so arranged as to ensure that in the event of fire or other failure of the auxiliary installation, the emergency electrical power source will provide the simultaneous functioning for at least three hours of the following services:

- i) the internal communication system, fire detectors and emergency signals;
- ii) the navigation lights;
- iii) the emergency lights (in stairways, exits, machinery spaces, wheelhouse and liferaft launching stations);
- iv) the radio installation (reference should be made to The Merchant Shipping (Radio)(Fishing Vessels) Regulations, SI 1999, No. 3210).

**Vessels 18 metres in length LBP and over, constructed before 23 November 1995, may continue to locate the emergency electrical power source inside the engine room, where structural characteristics do not permit relocation. E**

4.2.10.2 The emergency source of electrical power may be an independently driven generator, provided with an independent fuel supply and means of starting, or accumulator batteries.

4.2.10.3 If the emergency electrical power source is an accumulator battery and the main electrical power source fails, the accumulator battery should be automatically connected to the emergency electrical switchboard and supply power for an uninterrupted period of three hours to the systems referred to in section 4.2.10.1, above.

4.2.10.4 The generating sets (required in section 4.2.8.1) should each be capable of charging such accumulator batteries.

4.2.10.5 *Adequate means should be provided to enable regular testing of the emergency source of electrical power.* N

### 4.3 BILGE PUMPING

#### 4.3.1 General

4.3.1.1 A vessel should be provided with efficient means for removal of water entering any compartment below the weather deck (other than a tank permanently used for carriage of liquids that is provided with efficient means of pumping or drainage).

4.3.1.2 Section 11.1 contains requirements for prevention of pollution of the sea.

#### 4.3.2 Bilge and Fish Processing Space Pumping Arrangements

4.3.2.1 Every vessel should be provided with:

- i) Efficient means of draining any compartment, other than a compartment appropriated for the storage of oil or fresh water, when the vessel is upright or is listed not more than five degrees either way. Suction(s) should be provided in the engine room and in the fish hold to the lowest drainage level of the compartment.

- ii) *The bilge suction and means of drainage should be so arranged that water entering any main watertight compartment can be pumped out through at least two independent bilge systems and suction.* N

**Existing arrangements for existing vessels will continue to be accepted.** E

- iii) Where wet fish processing takes place within a weathertight compartment that does not have sufficient freeboard to permit direct overboard discharge via scuppers or other arrangements (see paragraph 2.2.6.2), that space should be provided with independent pumping arrangements having a capacity of at least 1.5 times the wash water supply. Where pumping arrangements are intended to cater for solid waste, discharge should be arranged via local sumps with pumps suitable for pumping fish waste products.

4.3.2.2 All vessels should have:

- i) Not less than two separate bilge pumps, each having a minimum capacity (Q) calculated as follows:

$$Q = (0.00575) D_m^2 \text{ (metres}^3 \text{ per hour)}$$

where  $D_m$  = bilge main diameter (millimetres) and

$$D_m = 30 + 1.68\sqrt{L(B+D)} \text{ or } 50 \text{ millimetres (whichever is the greater)}$$

L = length of vessel (metres)

B = breadth of vessel (metres)

D = depth of vessel (metres)

- ii) *On new vessels, both pumps should be power driven, with at least one pump driven by independent means.* N

- iii) **On existing vessels, at least one pump should be power driven and the second may take the form of either:**

- a) **a power driven pump, powered by separate means to the first pump); or**
- b) **a portable salvage pump; or**
- c) **a submersible pump, powered by separate means to the first pump; or**
- d) **a hand operated bilge pumping system.** E

Note: The capacity of systems (a) to (d) above should satisfy the minimum capacity (Q). If not, a portable salvage pump, satisfying the minimum capacity (Q) should be provided.

A portable salvage pump may also be used as an emergency fire pump and it is recommended that existing vessels (particularly those vessels fitted with non- watertight bulkheads or singular bilge systems) carry such a pump in addition to the minimum requirements.

4.3.2.3 A general service pump, of minimum capacity (Q), may be used as a power driven bilge pump.

- 4.3.2.4 Bilge ejectors do not meet the requirements of a power driven bilge pump.
- 4.3.2.5 Bilge pumps should be self-priming. Pumps, whether operated by hand or power, should be capable of drawing water from any space as required by section 4.3.1.1.
- 4.3.2.6 Distribution boxes, valves and cocks fitted in bilge pumping systems should be in accessible positions.
- 4.3.2.7 In every vessel-
- i) pipes from the pumps for draining hold spaces or any part of the machinery space should be independent of pipes that may be used for filling or emptying spaces in which water or oil is carried;
  - ii) bilge pipes should be of steel or other suitable material having flanged joints wherever practicable. Flexible piping, if accessible for inspection and jointed with suitable clamps, may be installed where necessary.
- 4.3.2.8 Bilge main pipe diameters should be in accordance with section 4.3.2.2.

**Existing vessels may continue to comply with the requirements of The Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975. E**

- 4.3.2.9 Bilge branch suction pipes diameters should be not less than:

$$D_b = 30 + 2.15\sqrt{C(B+D)}$$

Where  $D_b$  = internal bilge branch line diameter or 40 millimetres, whichever the greater

C = length of compartment (metres)

B = breadth of vessel (metres)

D = depth of vessel (metres)

**Existing vessels may continue to comply with the requirements of The Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975. E**

- 4.3.2.10 Bilge pumping systems should be so arranged as to prevent water passing from the sea or from water ballast spaces into holds or into machinery spaces or from one watertight compartment to another. The bilge connection to any pump that draws from the sea or from water ballast spaces should be fitted with either a non-return valve or a cock which cannot be opened simultaneously either to the bilges and to the sea or to the bilges and water ballast spaces.
- 4.3.2.11 Valves in bilge distribution boxes should be of a screw down non-return type. Non-return valves should be fitted in the discharge lines of hand operated bilge pumps unless the pumps are of suitable design and discharge directly onto the deck.
- 4.3.2.12 All bilge suction should be fitted with readily accessible strainers. The total area of the perforation in the strainer should be not less than twice the cross sectional area of the bilge pipe.

### 4.3.3 Bilge Alarms

4.3.3.1 A bilge alarm sensor should be fitted in the propulsion machinery space and fish hold(s) of the vessel. These alarms should be accessible for regular testing.

**Existing vessels should be fitted with a fish hold sensor by the first periodical survey under this Code.** E

4.3.3.2 To prevent pollution, bilge sensors in compartments containing pollutants should not automatically start bilge pumps.

4.3.3.3 Any auto-start bilge pump serving a clean compartment should be fitted with an audible and visual alarm at the control position(s) so that the reason for pumping may be investigated. Such pumps should also be fitted with a "manual override" to start the pump.

4.3.3.4 Each dry compartment provided with a bilge suction capability (built-in or portable) should be fitted with a bilge level alarm if the level of bilge water can not be readily checked visually without entering the compartment. Alternatively, spring loaded drain valves may be fitted outside the compartment as a means of checking the bilge level.

4.3.3.5 A bilge alarm should provide an audible and visual warning at the control position(s).

4.3.3.6 Each engine room bilge alarm system should be provided with:

- i) a secondary, independent bilge alarm system; or
- ii) a "fail safe " warning should the bilge alarm circuit become faulty.

**Existing vessels should be fitted with (i) or (ii) above, by the first periodical survey under this Code.** E

4.3.3.7 Further guidance for bilge alarms and bilge pumps is provided in MGN 165(F).

## 4.4 STEERING GEAR, RUDDERS, ANCHORS AND CHAIN CABLES

### 4.4.1 Steering Gear

4.4.1.1 Every vessel should be provided with a main steering gear and an auxiliary means of actuating the rudder to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

4.4.1.2 The main steering gear and the auxiliary means of actuating the rudder should be arranged so that as far as is reasonable and practicable a single failure in one of them will not render the other one inoperative. If electrical power is lost in the wheelhouse, the auxiliary steering should remain operable.

4.4.1.3 In every vessel:

- i) the main steering gear including any rudder, stock, tiller and associated fitting should be of adequate strength and capable of steering the vessel at the maximum ahead service speed and should be so designed that they are not damaged at maximum astern speed or in any other operating condition;

- ii) the auxiliary means of steering should be capable of being brought rapidly into action and should enable the vessel to be steered at a navigable speed.

4.4.1.4 *The main steering gear should be capable of turning the rudder from 35 degrees on one side to 35 degrees on the other in 30 seconds when the vessel is at navigable speed and from 20 degrees on one side to 20 degrees on the other in 30 seconds when the vessel is at maximum ahead service speed, with the rudder totally submerged.* N

4.4.1.5 Every vessel should have a rudder position indicator in the wheelhouse.

#### 4.4.2 **Vessels Fitted with Steering Devices other than Rudders**

4.4.2.1 If a vessel is fitted with a steering device other than a rudder, the construction and operation of such a device should be adequate and suitable for its intended purpose.

#### 4.4.3 **Electrical and Electro-hydraulic Steering Gear**

4.4.3.1 Where electrical or electro-hydraulic steering gear is fitted, indicators should be provided which will show when the power units of such steering gear are in operation. These indicators should be situated in the machinery control room or other suitable position and in the wheelhouse.

4.4.3.2 Where electrical power is the only source of power for steering, in the event of electrical systems failure, either of the following provisions should be available for emergency steering:

- i) a portable tiller arm that can mount on the top of the rudder stock and be operated by a block and tackle system; or
- ii) a hand pump powered by a hydraulic system with direct connection via a hydraulic ram to the tiller arm (this may be a helm-mounted pump within the steering system).

4.4.3.3 An efficient form of communication between the main control position and the emergency steering position should be provided.

4.4.3.4 Each circuit should be adequate for the most severe load condition; short circuit protection only should be provided.

#### 4.4.4 **Anchors and Cables**

4.4.4.1 Every vessel should be equipped with anchors and chain cables sufficient in weight and strength, having regard to the vessel's size and intended service. Wire rope of suitable strength (e.g. trawl warps) may be substituted for chain cable provided that a length of chain cable is attached between the wire rope and the anchor. The size of this chain should be appropriate to the anchor weight and length of the chain cable should not be less than the LOA of the vessel.

4.4.4.2 The anchor(s) with the associated cable should be stowed to enable rapid deployment and be provided with means of retrieval.

4.4.4.3 Anchor weights and lengths of cables should comply with the table 1 on the following page (subject to 4.4.4.4, 4.4.4.5 and 4.4.4.6 below) where:

$$\text{Equipment numeral} = D^{2/3} + 1.6BH + A/10$$

Where:

A= area (in metres<sup>2</sup>) in profile view of the hull, superstructures and houses above the deepest operating waterline, having a breadth greater than B/4

B = breadth of vessel (in metres)

H = freeboard midships (in metres) from the deepest operating waterline to the freeboard deck, plus the sum of the heights, in metres, of each tier of superstructures and houses at the centreline, each tier having a breadth greater than B/4

D= displacement, in tonnes, to the deepest operating waterline. N

4.4.4.4 Where stud link cable is used, the diameter may be 1.5 millimetres less than the tabular diameter. N

4.4.4.5 \* Where it is proposed to use high holding power anchors, a reduction in anchor weight of up to 20% will be considered. N

4.4.4.6 \*\* U2 Grade refers to special quality steel (wrought/cast with a tensile strength in the range 490 - 690 N/millimetres<sup>2</sup>).

Chain cables constructed of mild steel (U1) (tensile strength in the range 300 - 490 N/millimetres<sup>2</sup>) should be increased by 14% in diameter. N

4.4.4.7 **The anchor and cable arrangements on existing vessels will be accepted provided those arrangements continue to remain efficient in service.** E

**TABLE 1**

EQUIPMENT NUMERAL	TOTAL ANCHOR WEIGHT IN KGs (MINIMUM)*	MIN NO OF ANCHORS	MINIMUM LENGTH OF CABLE IN METRES	SIZE OF CHAIN CABLE IN MM; U2**
UP TO 60	95	1	82.5	12.0
61-80	130	1	82.5	12.0
81-90	165	1	82.5	12.0
91 -100	190	1	110	14.0
101-110	210	1	110	14.0
111-120	245	1	110	15.0
121 - 130	270	1	110	15.0
131 - 140	305	1	137.5	16.0
141 - 150	350	1	137.5	16.0
151 - 175	435	1	137.5	19.0
176-205	520	1	137.5	20.5
206-240	590	1	137.5	22.0
241-280	660	1	165	24.0

For intermediate values of equipment numeral, linear interpolation may be carried out for anchor weights, cable lengths and sizes. N



## CHAPTER 5 (FIRE PROTECTION, DETECTION & EXTINCTION)

### 5.1 FIRE

#### 5.1.1 General

- 5.1.1.1 Every vessel should be so constructed and equipped such that there is no substantial fire risk to the vessel or to persons on board the vessel.
- 5.1.1.2 Consideration should be given to reducing the use of combustible construction materials when non-combustible equivalents are readily available.
- 5.1.1.3 The insulating materials used in accommodation spaces, service spaces, control stations and machinery spaces should be non-combustible. The surface of any insulation fitted on the internal boundaries of machinery spaces should be impervious to oil or oil vapours.
- 5.1.1.4 Within refrigerating compartments, any combustible insulation should be protected by close fitting linings.
- 5.1.1.5 Exposed surfaces within accommodation spaces, service spaces, control stations, corridor and stairway enclosures and the concealed surfaces behind bulkheads, suspended ceilings, panelling and linings fitted within those spaces should have low flame spread characteristics.
- 5.1.1.6 *Support structure (grounds) to linings and ceilings etc. should be constructed of non-combustible material. Where it is not practicable to use non-combustible material, the material used should be treated with a suitable fire retarding treatment.* N
- 5.1.1.7 Air spaces enclosed behind suspended ceilings, panelling or linings in accommodation spaces, service spaces and control stations should be divided by close fitting draught stops spaced not more than 7 metres apart.
- 5.1.1.8 Paints, varnishes and other finishes used on exposed interior surfaces should not constitute a fire hazard and should not, in a fire, produce excessive quantities of smoke, toxic gases or vapour to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.
- In new vessels this should be determined in accordance with the Fire Test Procedures Code.* N
- 5.1.1.9 Primary deck coverings within accommodation and service spaces and control stations, should be of materials which will not readily ignite or give rise to toxic or explosive hazards at elevated temperatures to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.
- In new vessels this should be determined in accordance with the Fire Test Procedures Code.* N

5.1.1.10 Curtains, floor coverings and furnishings should be resistant to flame and ignition to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

*In new vessels:*

i) *curtains should be resistant to flame propagation in accordance with the Fire Test Procedures Code;*

ii) *all surface floor coverings should have low flame spread; and*

iii) *the upholstered parts of furniture should be resistant to ignition and flame propagation, in accordance with the Fire Test Procedures Code.* **N**

5.1.1.11 Pipes conveying oil, combustible liquids or flammable gases should be constructed from steel or other suitable material. Jointing materials should not be rendered ineffective by heat.

5.1.1.12 Plastic piping may be used for services other than those specified in 5.1.1.11 provided that appropriate fire testing, in accordance with the requirements of the Fire Test Procedures Code, has been carried out to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority. The integrity of watertight or fire divisions when penetrated by such pipes should be maintained to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

5.1.1.13 Flammable liquids should always be carried in suitably sealed containers and stowed in a safe position.

5.1.1.14 Fire fighting equipment should always be kept in its proper location, maintained in good working order, and be available for immediate use.

5.1.1.15 The crew should be familiar with the locations of fire fighting equipment, the way it works and how it should be used.

5.1.1.16 The presence of extinguishers and other portable fire fighting equipment should always be checked before the vessel gets under way.

5.1.1.17 Manually operated fire fighting equipment should be readily accessible, simple to use and should be indicated by signs of durable construction and appropriately positioned. Reference may be made to The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Safety Signs and Signals) Regulations SI 2001, No. 3444. (See: Signs section 10.2).

5.1.1.18 Fire detection and alarm systems should be regularly tested and well maintained.

5.1.1.19 Fire fighting drills should be carried out at regular intervals (see section 8.1.2)

5.1.1.20 **The fire protection, detection and extinguishing arrangements on existing vessels will continue to be accepted providing they are maintained in accordance with previous requirements under the Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975, and continue to remain efficient in service.** **E**

- 5.1.2 **Structural Fire Protection for Vessels with Hulls Constructed of Steel or other Equivalent Material**
- 5.1.2.1 *In every vessel the superstructure, structural bulkheads, decks and deckhouses should be constructed of steel or other equivalent material, having due regard to the risk of fire.* N
- 5.1.2.2 *Subject to sections 5.1.2.4 and 5.1.2.8, bulkheads and decks bounding main machinery spaces should be constructed to "A-0" standard.* N
- 5.1.2.3 *Bulkheads and decks, which separate galleys (or combined galley/mess rooms) from accommodation spaces, service spaces or control stations should be constructed to "A-30" standard. Alternatively, and subject to section 5.1.2.8, where an appropriate fixed fire extinguishing system is fitted such bulkheads and decks may be constructed to "A-0" standard.* N
- 5.1.2.4 *Where fishrooms are fitted with combustible insulation, bulkheads and decks separating such spaces from main machinery spaces or galleys (or combined galley/mess rooms) should be constructed to "A-30" standard* N
- 5.1.2.5 *Bulkheads of corridors serving accommodation spaces, service spaces and control stations, other than bulkheads required to meet the provisions of sections 5.1.2.2 and 5.1.2.3 should extend from deck to deck and should be formed of steel, "B-15" class divisions or equivalent.* N
- 5.1.2.6 *Interior stairways serving accommodation spaces, service spaces or control stations should be constructed of steel. The enclosures to such stairways should be of steel, "B-15" class or equivalent and be fitted with a "B-15" class closing arrangement at one end of each stairway.* N
- 5.1.2.7 *The number of openings in the bulkheads and decks referred to in sections 5.1.2.2 and 5.1.2.3 should be the minimum practicable. Such openings should be fitted with closing arrangements that provide fire protection equivalent to the surrounding structure. Any access doors provided in the casing of the main machinery space or galley (or combined galley/mess) should be of "A-30" standard and be self-closing except when such a door is required to be of weathertight construction.* N
- 5.1.2.8 *Where, due to constraints of design or layout, a life-raft or EPIRB is required to be stowed over the galley or machinery space, such stowage areas and associated access routes should be insulated to "A-30" standard.* N
- 5.1.2.9 *Where combustible material is fitted to boundary bulkheads and decks of spaces adjoining galleys (or combined galley/mess rooms) and main machinery spaces, it should be protected from the effects of heat that may result from a fire in those spaces.* N
- 5.1.2.10 *Where bulkheads or decks, that are required to be of "A" or "B" class divisions, are penetrated by pipes, cables, trunks, ducts etc., arrangements should be made to ensure that the fire integrity of the division is not impaired.* N
- 5.1.2.11 **Where an existing boundary is affected in its entirety during modification or refit to the vessel, that boundary should, in general, comply with Code requirements.** E

### 5.1.3 Structural Fire Protection for Vessels with Hulls Constructed of Combustible Materials

- 5.1.3.1 *For vessels primarily constructed of wood and where the superstructure, structural bulkheads and decks over machinery spaces are constructed of steel or other equivalent material, fire protection arrangements should be fitted as for steel vessels in sections 5.1.2.1 to 5.1.2.10 above.* N
- 5.1.3.2 *Subject to section 5.1.3.1 in every vessel, the hull of which is constructed of combustible materials, the decks and bulkheads of machinery spaces and galleys (or a combined galley/mess), should be constructed to meet "F" or "B-15" class standard or equivalent. In addition, such boundaries should as far as practicable prevent the passage of smoke.* N
- 5.1.3.3 *Decks and bulkheads separating control stations from accommodation spaces, service spaces or main machinery spaces should be constructed to meet "F" class standard or equivalent.* N
- 5.1.3.4 *Bulkheads of corridors serving accommodation spaces, service spaces and control stations should extend from deck to deck and be formed of "F" or "B-15" class divisions or equivalent.* N
- 5.1.3.5 *Interior stairways serving accommodation spaces, service spaces or control stations should be constructed of steel. The enclosures to such stairways should be of "F" class divisions or equivalent and be fitted with an appropriate "F" or "B-15" class closing arrangement at one end of each stairway.* N
- 5.1.3.6 *The number of openings in the bulkheads and decks referred to in sections 5.1.3.2 and 5.1.3.3 should be the minimum practicable. Such openings should be fitted with closing arrangements that provide fire protection equivalent to the surrounding structure. Any access doors provided in the casing of the main propelling machinery space should be of "F" or "B-15" class and be self-closing except when such a door is required to be of weathertight construction.* N
- 5.1.3.7 *Where bulkheads or decks, that are required to be of "F" or "B" class divisions, are penetrated by pipes, cables, trunks, ducts etc., arrangements should be made to ensure that the fire integrity of the division is not impaired.* N
- 5.1.3.8 *All exposed surfaces of glass reinforced plastic construction within accommodation and service spaces, control stations, main machinery spaces and other machinery spaces of similar fire risk should have the final lay-up layer of resin having inherent fire retarding properties or be coated with a suitable fire retardant paint or be protected by non-combustible materials.* N
- 5.1.3.9 **Where an existing boundary is affected in its entirety during modification or refit to the vessel, that boundary should, in general, comply with Code requirements.** E

### 5.1.4 Ventilation Systems

- 5.1.4.1 *Means should be provided to stop fans and close all main openings to ventilation systems from outside the spaces served. Means should also be provided for closing funnel ventilation openings.* N

- 5.1.4.2 *Ventilation openings may be provided in and under the doors in corridor bulkheads but excluding any doors to stairway enclosures or the machinery space. The net area of any such opening should not exceed 0.05 square metres.* N
- 5.1.4.3 *Ventilation ducts for main machinery spaces or galleys should not in general pass through accommodation spaces, service spaces or control stations however they may pass through fish processing or similar spaces having a low fire risk. Similarly ventilation ducts for accommodation spaces, service spaces or control stations should not pass through main machinery spaces or galleys. Where the Certifying Authority permits such arrangements, the ducts should be constructed of steel or a similar material and be arranged to preserve the integrity of the divisions concerned.* N
- 5.1.4.4 *Ventilation systems serving machinery spaces should be independent of systems serving other spaces.* N
- 5.1.4.5 *Ventilation systems to spaces containing appreciable quantities of highly flammable products should be separate from other ventilation systems. Ventilation should be provided at high and low levels within the space and the external inlets and outlets of such vents should be positioned in safe areas on open deck away from any source of ignition. Vent motors and equipment provided within the system should be intrinsically safe.* N
- 5.1.4.6 *When trunks or ducts cross a fire rated division then manual fire dampers should be fitted to prevent the passage of smoke and flame across the division, the dampers should be capable of operation from both sides of the bulkhead or deck, when the cross sectional area of any trunk or duct exceeds 0.02 square metres then the damper should additionally be of the automatic self closing type.* N
- 5.1.4.7 *Fire dampers may be omitted if the ducting is of substantial construction and equivalent arrangements have been provided to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.* N
- 5.1.4.8 Refer also to section 2.2.7 (Ventilators).
- 5.1.5 **Fire Detection**
- 5.1.5.1 All vessels should be fitted with automatic fire detection and alarm systems covering the machinery spaces, galley and accommodation spaces.
- Existing vessels not currently fitted with such systems should comply with this requirement by the time of their next renewal survey or 23 November 2003 whichever is sooner.** E
- 5.1.5.2 The fire detection system should be fit for its intended service and be capable of automatically indicating, in the wheelhouse, the presence of fire.
- In new vessels the location of the fire should also be indicated.* N
- 5.1.5.3 The indicating system for the detection system should comprise of both an audible and visual alarm within the wheelhouse.
- 5.1.5.4 The system should be supplied from both the main and emergency sources of electric power.

## 5.1.6 Fire Extinction

### 5.1.6.1 Vessels should be provided with:

- i) a fixed fire extinguishing system for the main machinery space;
- ii) a fixed fire extinguishing system for the galley (or combined galley/mess) subject to section 5.1.2.3;
- iii) a power operated fire pump, delivering a minimum of 15 metres<sup>3</sup>/h at a pressure of not less than 2kg/metres<sup>2</sup>, supplying a hose or hoses such that a jet of water can reach any part of the vessel accessible to the crew. This pump may be either a general service pump or a bilge pump;
- iv) at least three portable fire extinguishers situated for use in the accommodation and service spaces with an extinguishing medium suitable to the fire risk involved;
- v) at least two portable fire extinguishers suitable for extinguishing oil fires should be provided within the machinery space;
- vi) a fire blanket for the Galley N

**Existing vessels may continue to comply with the requirements of the Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975** E

### 5.1.6.2 Fire Extinguishing Equipment

#### 5.1.6.2.1 A fixed fire extinguishing system for the machinery space should be either:

- i) a fire smothering gas installation; or
- ii) a high expansion foam installation; or
- iii) a stored pressure water spraying installation; or
- iv) any other fixed fire extinguishing system acceptable to the MCA. N

5.1.6.2.2 The equipment, capacities, controls and alarms for such a system should be arranged and installed to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority. N

5.1.6.2.3 Where air pressure systems and storage bottles in machinery spaces are not vented externally to the machinery space, an appropriate allowance should be made when calculating the required volume of the extinguishing medium required for such spaces.

5.1.6.2.4 Operation of such equipment should be from a position of safety and preferably on the open deck. N

5.1.6.2.5 Piping systems and fittings for fire services should be of materials that are not rendered ineffective by heat. Pipes made of steel should be galvanised and suitable drainage provided in deck lines to guard against the possibility of frost damage. A valve or cock should be provided at each delivery position. N

5.1.6.2.6 Portable fire extinguishers should be to BS EN 3 (1996) standard with the following capacities:

- i) water, of at least 9 litres capacity;
- ii) foam, of at least 9 litres capacity;

- iii) CO<sub>2</sub>, of at least 3 kg capacity;
- iv) Dry powder, of at least 4.5 kg capacity;
- v) Multi purpose with a capacity at least equivalent to a 9 litre fluid fire extinguisher.

*Note: Extinguishers and equipment carrying the Marine Equipment Directive Stamp ("wheelmark") are acceptable.* N

**5.1.6.2.7 Where vessel refit, alteration or modifications are carried out, existing installations and arrangements may require reconsideration.** E

### 5.1.6.3 Means of Escape and Emergency Exits

5.1.6.3.1 Stairways, ladders and passageways should be arranged to provide ready means of escape from accommodation spaces and spaces in which the crew is normally employed, to the open deck where the life saving appliances will be available for use.

5.1.6.3.2 At least two means of escape, which may include the normal means of access, should be provided from accommodation, service or working spaces or groups of such spaces, situated on any one deck level within either watertight or fire resistant boundaries, except that:

- i) only one means of escape may be provided where this is considered to be adequate by the Certifying Authority having due regard to the nature and location of the space and the number of persons who might be accommodated or employed there;
- ii) exceptionally, a suitably sized window may be accepted as a second means of escape for spaces above the weather deck. A grab rail should be fitted above the window and a suitable hammer positioned in a convenient local position. This "designated window" should be marked as an escape and provide access onto a decked area, from which the Life-Saving Appliances may be easily and safely accessed.

5.1.6.3.3 Hatches and doors forming part of an escape route should be readily operable from both sides by any person or by rescue teams.

5.1.6.3.4 All escape routes should be kept clear of obstructions and the clear access and dimensions of such routes should allow for rapid and safe evacuation.

5.1.6.3.5 At least two suitably located means of escape should be provided from the main machinery space except that where the size of the machinery space renders this impracticable a single means of escape may be accepted. Where ladders are provided for escape, they should be of steel construction.

5.1.6.3.6 Emergency lighting should be arranged to cover all escape routes.

5.1.6.3.7 Emergency routes and exits should be indicated by signs in accordance with the The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Safety Signs and Signals) Regulations SI 2001, No. 3444 (see also section 10.2)

5.1.6.3.8 All means of escape should be arranged to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

#### 5.1.7 Means for Stopping Machinery

5.1.7.1 *Machinery space ventilation fans, oil fuel transfer pumps, and other similar fuel pumps should be fitted with remote controls located outside the spaces in which they are situated. These controls should be capable of stopping the machinery or pumps in the event of fire.* N

5.1.7.2 *Remote electric stops for ventilation fans serving accommodation spaces should be operable from outside the space.* N

#### 5.1.8 Miscellaneous Fire Precautions

##### 5.1.8.1 Space heaters

5.1.8.1.1 *Electric space heaters, where provided, should be constructed and fitted to reduce the fire risk to a minimum and where such heaters are situated on decks or bulkheads the structure of such decks or bulkheads should be protected by non-combustible material. Heaters with exposed elements and open flame fuel heaters should not be provided.* N

##### 5.1.8.2 Galley area

5.1.8.2.1 *Materials that are in the vicinity of any cooking appliance should be non-combustible, except that combustible materials may be employed when these are faced with stainless steel or a similar non combustible material.* N

5.1.8.2.2 *Wherever practicable, electrically powered cooking equipment should be provided in preference to open flame types.* N

5.1.8.2.3 *Curtains, towel rails, hooks and similar arrangements should be kept well clear of the cooking area.* N

5.1.8.2.4 *Electric stoves and other cooking appliances should be fitted with an isolation switch outside the galley space.* N

##### 5.1.8.3 Oil fuel installations (cooking ranges and heating appliances)

5.1.8.3.1 *Where cooking ranges or heating appliances within crew spaces are supplied with fuel from an oil tank, the tank should be situated outside the space containing the cooking range or heating appliance and the supply of oil to the burners should be capable of being controlled from outside that space. Ranges or burners using oil fuel having a flash point of less than 60° centigrade (Closed Cup Test) should not be fitted. Means should be provided to shut off the fuel supply automatically at the cooking range or heating appliance in the event of fire or if the combustion air supply fails. Such means should require manual resetting in order to restore the fuel supply.* N



- 5.1.8.3.2 *Oil tanks supplying the cooking range or heating appliance should be provided with an air pipe leading to the open air, and in such a position that there will be no danger of fire or explosion resulting from the emergence of oil vapour from the open end of the pipe. The open end should be fitted with a detachable wire gauze diaphragm. (refer also to section 2.2.8, Air Pipes)* N
- 5.1.8.3.3 *Adequate means should be provided for filling every such tank and for preventing overpressure.* N
- 5.1.8.3.4 *Closed flame diesel heaters should comply with the manufacturer's instructions. Additional guidance is provided in MGN 192 (F) – The Use of Heaters.* N
- 5.1.8.4 **Liquefied Petroleum Gas installations (cooking ranges and heating appliances)**
- 5.1.8.4.1 *Installations using liquefied petroleum gas should be properly and safely fitted and fit for their intended service (guidance may be found in BS EN (ISO) 10239). All valves, pressure regulators and pipes leading from the cylinders should be protected against damage.* N
- 5.1.8.4.2 *All liquefied petroleum gas heating appliances used in accommodation spaces, including sleeping quarters, should be fitted with a flue to the exterior of the vessel via a clear unblocked exhaust.* N
- 5.1.8.4.3 *Spaces where appliances consuming liquefied petroleum gas are used should be adequately ventilated.* N
- 5.1.8.4.4 *Mechanical ventilation systems fitted to any space in which such gas containers or appliances are situated should be of such design and construction as will eliminate the hazards due to sparking. The ventilation systems serving spaces containing such gas storage containers or gas-consuming appliances should be separate from any other ventilation system.* N
- 5.1.8.4.5 *Containers holding liquefied petroleum gas should be clearly marked and securely stowed on deck or in a well ventilated compartment situated on the deck. Where drainage is provided from compartments containing such gas containers, drains should lead directly overboard.* N
- 5.1.8.4.6 *Spaces containing cooking ranges or heating appliances that use liquefied petroleum gas should not be fitted with openings leading directly below to accommodation spaces or their passageways, except that where this is not reasonably practicable and such openings are fitted mechanical exhaust ventilation trunked to within 300 millimetres of the deck adjacent to the appliance, together with adequate supply ventilation, and a gas detector should be fitted with an alarm in the space below.* N
- 5.1.8.4.7 *A device should be fitted in the supply pipe from the gas container to the consuming appliance that will shut off the gas automatically in the event of loss of pressure or low pressure in the supply line. The device should be of a type that requires deliberate manual operation to restore the gas supply. An automatic shut-off device that operates in the event of flame failure should be fitted on all appliances consuming liquefied petroleum gas.* N

- 5.1.8.4.8 *Open flame gas heating appliances should not be fitted except where used as cooking stoves. Adequate ventilation should be provided to spaces containing cooking stoves. Pipes supplying gas from the container to the cooking stove should be constructed of suitable material. Arrangements should be provided to ensure automatic cut-off to the supply of gas when there is a loss of pressure or flame failure.* N
- 5.1.8.4.9 *Heating stoves and other similar appliances should be secured in position and their exhaust, together with the surrounding structure, provided with adequate fire protection. The exhausts of stoves should be provided with ready means of cleaning. The dampers fitted in exhausts for controlling draught should provide an adequate flow of air when in the closed position. The air supply to these appliances should not be fitted with means of closing.* N
- 5.1.8.4.10 *Every space containing a gas-consuming appliance should be provided with gas detection and audible alarm equipment. The gas detection device should be securely fixed in the lower part of the space in the vicinity of the gas-consuming appliance. The alarm unit and indicating panel should be situated outside the spaces containing the appliance.* N
- 5.1.8.4.11 *Where gas consuming appliances are used in sleeping quarters or in adjacent spaces, an audible alarm should be fitted in the sleeping quarters in addition to the alarm required by section 5.1.8.4.10* N
- 5.1.8.4.12 *Atmospheric monitoring devices (i.e. carbon monoxide sensors) should be fitted in all compartments where liquefied petroleum gas heating appliances are fitted.* N
- 5.1.8.4.13 *A suitable notice should be displayed prominently in the vessel that details the action to be taken when a gas alarm activates or a gas leak is suspected.* N
- 5.1.8.4.14 **As far as is practicable, existing vessels should comply with the requirements of 5.1.8.4. However, a shut down device operated by the alarm stated in section 5.1.8.4.10, may be used in lieu of a flame failure device required in section 5.1.8.4.7.** E
- 5.1.8.8 **Portable Plant**
- 5.1.8.8.1 When portable plant is powered by an engine, the unit should be stored on the weather deck. If such storage is within a deck locker or similar enclosure, then the enclosure should have gas tight boundaries to adjacent spaces. The locker or enclosure should be adequately ventilated and drained.
- 5.1.8.8.2 Consideration should be given to the exhaust gases produced by portable plant and suitable ventilation or exhaust trunking provided where necessary to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- 5.1.8.8.3 Fuel tanks should be arranged to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

- 5.1.8.8.4 Portable containers for the carriage of fuel should be:
- i) kept to a minimum;
  - ii) suitable for the carriage of fuel;
  - iii) stowed on the weather deck where they can readily be jettisoned and where any spillage will drain directly overboard; and
  - iv) be clearly marked with their contents.

5.1.8.9 **Storage of flammable liquids, toxic liquids, toxic gases and compressed gases**

- 5.1.8.9.1 Cylinders containing flammable, toxic or other dangerous gases, and expended cylinders should be clearly marked as to their contents and properly stowed and secured on open decks. All valves, pressure regulators and pipes leading from such cylinders should be protected against damage. Such cylinders may be stowed in compartments that meet the requirements set out in section 5.1.8.9.2.
- 5.1.8.9.2 Cylinders and bottles containing flammable, toxic liquids, toxic gases and liquefied gases, other than liquefied petroleum gas should be stored in compartments having direct access from open decks. Such compartments should have boundary bulkheads constructed from non-combustible materials. Pressure adjusting devices and relief valves, if any, should exhaust within the compartment. Where boundary bulkheads of such compartments adjoin other enclosed spaces they should be gas-tight and be provided with ventilation arrangements that are separate from other ventilation systems. Ventilation should be arranged at high and low levels and the inlets and outlets of ventilators should be positioned in safe areas and fitted with spark arresters.
- 5.1.8.9.3 Electrical wiring and fittings should not be installed within compartments containing highly flammable liquids or liquefied gases except where necessary for service within the space. Where such electrical fittings are installed they should be suitable for use in a flammable atmosphere.
- 5.1.8.9.4 Compartments containing compressed gas cylinders should not be used for stowage of other combustible products or for tools or objects not belonging to the gas distribution system.
- 5.1.8.9.5 Gas welding and cutting equipment, if carried, should be stowed in a secure manner on the open deck at a safe distance from any potential source of fire and should have the capability of being readily jettisoned overboard if necessary.
- 5.1.8.9.6 *Any compartment that contains a gas consuming appliance or any compartment into which flammable gas may leak or accumulate, should be provided with a hydrocarbon gas detector and alarm.* N

5.1.8.10 **Cleanliness of machinery spaces**

5.1.8.10.1 Machinery spaces should be kept clean, free of rubbish and combustible waste. Bilge levels should be checked regularly and oily waste and sludge should be collected and properly disposed of ashore (see also Chapter 11, section 11.1).

5.1.8.10.2 Any oil leakage from machinery, fuel or lubricating oil systems should be promptly identified and rectified.

## CHAPTER 6 (PROTECTION OF THE CREW)

### 6.1 PROTECTION OF PERSONNEL

#### 6.1.1 General

- 6.1.1.1 Owners should ensure that their vessels are operated without endangering the safety and health of the crew.
- 6.1.1.2 The crew should be given training and instructions on health and safety matters on board fishing vessels, and in particular, on accident prevention.

#### 6.1.2 Risk Assessment

- 6.1.2.1 All members of the crew or their representatives should be informed of all measures to be taken regarding health and safety on board the vessel. Such information should be easily understood by the persons concerned.
- 6.1.2.2 A health and safety risk assessment (reference should be made to Regulation 7 of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations SI 1997, No. 2962) should be used to satisfy the obligation of providing information to crew members of the measures taken for their own protection.
- 6.1.2.3 Where risks to the safety and health of the crew cannot be prevented or sufficiently limited by collective or technical means of protection, they should be provided with personal protective equipment.
- 6.1.2.4 Personal protective equipment in the form of clothing or over clothing, should be in bright colours, contrasting with the marine environment and clearly visible. Reference should be made to The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Personal Protective Equipment) Regulations SI 1999, No 2205.

#### 6.1.3 Precautions against falls including Bulwarks, Guard Rails and Hand Rails

- 6.1.3.1 To ensure the safety of persons against falls, including falling overboard, and when the proper working of the vessel is not impeded, the perimeters of an exposed deck and the tops of any deckhouse should be provided with a combination of bulwarks, guardrails or taut wires of sufficient strength and at a height of at least 1000 millimetres. These bulwarks, rails or wires should be supported efficiently by stays or stanchions. The openings between the courses of any rails or wires should not exceed 230 millimetres for the lowest course and 380 millimetres for any other course. When application of such measures would impede the proper working of the vessel, equivalent safety measures may be considered.
- 6.1.3.2 **On vessels constructed before 23 November 1995 the height of the bulwarks, rails or wires referred to in sections 6.1.3.1 and 6.1.3.5 should be at least 915 millimetres. E**
- 6.1.3.3 If there is a risk that any member of the crew may fall through openings in the deck, or from one deck to another, then so far as is reasonably practicable adequate protection should be provided.

- 6.1.3.4 Accesses to installations above the deck for operations or maintenance purposes should be provided with guard rails or similar protective devices to prevent falls and to ensure the crew's safety. Where guard rails provide such protection, they should be of appropriate height.
- 6.1.3.5 The minimum height above deck of any fixed bulwarks should be 600 millimetres. All bulwark heights should be increased as necessary to not less than 1000 millimetres (but see section 6.1.3.2) by adequate stanchions or guard wires.
- 6.1.3.6 Access stairways, ladderways and passageways should be provided with hand rails as necessary and storm rails should be fitted on the outside of all deck houses and casings.
- 6.1.3.7 Adequate guard rails, lifelines, gangways or passages should be provided for the protection of persons on board the vessel when passing between their quarters, machinery spaces and working spaces.
- 6.1.3.8 On stern trawlers with ramps, the upper part of the ramp should be fitted with a gate or similar protective guard, of the same height as the bulwarks or adjacent structure, to protect the crew from the risks of falling into the ramp. This gate or other device should be capable of being readily opened and closed, *preferably by remote means\** and should be open only for shooting or hauling the nets. Safety harnesses and lines should be worn when the gate is open. See also section 6.1.4.2 below.
- 6.1.3.9 Stairways and ladders should be provided of size and strength adequate for the safe working of the vessel at sea and in port. Stairways and ladders should be provided with non-slip treads and hand rails.

*Note: Sections 6.1.3.10 to 6.1.3.12 inclusive apply to all vessels constructed on or after 23 November 1995 and, in so far as the structural characteristics permit, vessels of 18 metres in length LBP and over constructed before that date.* N+E

- 6.1.3.10 Working areas should be kept clear and, so far as is reasonably practicable, be protected from the sea and provide adequate protection for the crew against falling on the vessel or falling overboard.
- 6.1.3.11 Handling areas should be sufficiently spacious, in terms of both height and surface area.
- 6.1.3.12 A gangway or other suitable means, providing an appropriate and safe means of boarding the vessel should be available.

#### 6.1.4 Safety Harnesses

- 6.1.4.1 A vessel should be provided with at least 2 safety harnesses and additional safety harnesses as necessary for all persons who may be required to work on deck.
- 6.1.4.2 Efficient and permanent means for securing the lifelines of safety harnesses should be provided on exposed decks.

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\* for vessels constructed on or after 23 November 2002

## 6.1.5 Surface of Working Decks

*Note: Sections 6.1.5.1 to 6.1.5.2 inclusive apply to all vessels constructed on or after 23 November 1995 and, in so far as the structural characteristics permit, vessels of 18 metres in length LBP and over constructed before that date. N+E*

- 6.1.5.1 The surface of working decks and spaces accessible to the crew should be non-slip or anti-slip or be provided with devices to prevent falls and kept free of obstacles as far as possible.
- 6.1.5.2 Acceptable surfaces are: chequered plate; unpainted wood; a non-skid pattern moulded into fibre reinforced plastic (FRP); non-slip deck paint; or an efficient non-slip covering.

## 6.1.6 Winches, Tackles and Hoisting Gear

- 6.1.6.1 Every vessel that is provided with winches, tackles and hoisting gear should have such gear properly installed having regard to the intended service of the vessel.
- 6.1.6.2 All hoisting gear, hauling gear and related equipment should satisfy the requirements of EU Council Directives 1989/391/EEC, 1995/63/EC and 1989/655/EEC as applicable.

*Note: Sections 6.1.6.3 to 6.1.6.13 inclusive apply to all vessels constructed on or after 23 November 1995 and, in so far as the structural characteristics permit, vessels of 18 metres in length LBP and over constructed before that date. N+E*

- 6.1.6.3 All equipment used in hoisting should be tested and examined at regular intervals.
- 6.1.6.4 All parts of hauling gear, hoisting gear and related equipment should be maintained in good repair and working order.
- 6.1.6.5 The controls for the hauling gear should be installed in an area sufficiently large to enable operators to work unhindered.
- 6.1.6.6 The hauling gear should also have appropriate safety devices for emergencies, including emergency stop facilities.
- 6.1.6.7 The hauling gear operator should have a clear view of the hauling gear and any crew member working it.
- 6.1.6.8 If the hauling gear is controlled from the wheelhouse, the operator should also have a clear view of the crew working it, either directly or via any other suitable medium.
- 6.1.6.9 A reliable communications system should be used between the wheelhouse and the working deck and the crew should be trained in the use of hand signals.
- 6.1.6.10 A sharp look out should always be maintained and the crew warned of the imminent danger of heavy oncoming seas during fishing operations or when other work is being undertaken on deck.

6.1.6.11 Contact with bare ropes and warps and with moving parts of the equipment should be minimized by installing protective devices.

6.1.6.12 The following controls should be installed for moving masses (on vessels with trawl doors or codends):

- i) devices to immobilize the trawl doors;
- ii) devices to control the swinging motion of the codend.

6.1.6.13 The crew should be trained in the use of fishing gear and hauling equipment.

*Note: Sections 6.1.7.1 to 6.1.7.3 inclusive apply to all vessels constructed on or after 23 November 1995 and, in so far as the structural characteristics permit, vessels of 18 metres in length LBP and over constructed before that date.* N+E

#### 6.1.7 Ventilation of Enclosed Workplaces

6.1.7.1 Steps should be taken to ensure there is sufficient fresh air in enclosed workplaces, having regard to the work methods used and the physical demands that are placed on the crew.

6.1.7.2 If a mechanical ventilation system is used, it should be maintained in good condition.

6.1.7.3 Effective means of ventilation should be provided to all enclosed spaces that may be entered by persons on board.

#### 6.1.8 Temperature of Working Areas

6.1.8.1 The temperature in working areas should be adequate for the human body during the hours of working, having regard to the work methods used, the physical demands placed on the crew and the actual or potential weather conditions in the area in which the vessel operates.

6.1.8.2 The temperature in living quarters, sanitary facilities and mess rooms should, where these areas exist, be appropriate to the particular purpose of such areas.

#### 6.1.9 Natural and Artificial Lighting of Workplaces.

6.1.9.1 Workplaces should as far as possible receive sufficient natural light and be equipped with artificial lighting suitable for the operations in hand, without placing the crews safety and health in danger or jeopardising the navigation of other vessels.

6.1.9.2 Lighting installations in working areas, stairs, ladders and passageways should be placed in such a way that the type of lighting envisaged poses no risk of accident to the crew and no hindrance to the navigation of the vessel.

6.1.9.3 Workplaces in which the crew are especially exposed to risks in the event of failure of artificial lighting should be provided with emergency lighting of adequate intensity.

6.1.9.4 Emergency lighting should be maintained in an efficient operating condition and be tested at regular intervals.



**6.1.10 Workplace Soundproofing, Insulation and Cleanliness**

6.1.10.1 The owner should take appropriate measures to ensure that the vessel and all its fittings and equipment are cleaned regularly in order to maintain an appropriate standard of hygiene.

6.1.10.2 Workstations should be, as far as practicable, adequately soundproofed and insulated, bearing in mind the type of tasks involved and the physical activity of the crew.

6.1.10.3 The surfaces of decks, bulkheads and deckheads in working areas should be such that they can be cleaned and maintained.

**6.1.11 Doors**

6.1.11.1 Means should be provided so that doors can at all times be operated from the inside without special equipment.

6.1.11.2 Doors should be operable from either side when workplaces are in use.

6.1.11.3 Doors, and in particular, sliding doors, where such have to be used, should function as safely as possible for the crew, especially in adverse weather and sea conditions.

**6.2 SECURING OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT**

6.2.1 Heavy items of equipment such as spare fishing gear, batteries, cooking appliances etc., should be securely fastened in place to prevent movement due to severe motions of the vessel.

6.2.2 Stowage lockers containing heavy items should have lids or doors with secure fastening.

**6.3 MEDICAL STORES**

6.3.1 A vessel should carry first aid equipment and medical stores (reference should be made to Merchant Shipping Notice No. M.1726 (M+F)).

## CHAPTER 7 (LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES)

### 7.1 LIFE SAVING APPLIANCES

#### 7.1.1 General

- 7.1.1.1 Life saving appliances that are required to be of approved type should either have MCA type approval or be approved to SOLAS 1974 convention requirements, as amended, by a signatory Administration to that convention, or by a recognised classification society
- 7.1.1.2 Life saving appliances that are not required by this chapter to be of approved type should be to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.
- 7.1.1.3 Adequate instructions for use should be provided with each life saving appliance and also adjacent to its stowage position when appropriate.
- 7.1.1.4 Life saving appliances intended for use in the sea should be fitted with retro reflective markings to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority

#### 7.1.2 Vessel Requirements

- 7.1.2.1 The following life saving appliances should be provided:
  - i) at least two liferafts of approved type, each able to accommodate all persons onboard. One of the liferafts should be capable of being launched from either side of the vessel. Vessels which operate in sea area A1\*, that are not engaged in trawling with beams may, as an alternative to complying with this requirement, be fitted with just one liferaft, provided it is of sufficient capacity to accommodate all persons on board and capable of being launched from either side of the vessel;  
  
\*ie sea area A1 as defined in The Merchant Shipping (Radio) (Fishing Vessels) Regulations SI 1999 No. 3210, meaning an area within the Radiotelephone coverage of at least one VHF coast station in which continuous DSC alerting is available, and specified as such an area in Volume 5 of the Admiralty list of Radio Signals.
  - ii) a lifejacket of approved type for every person on board plus an additional two lifejackets;
  - iii) at least two lifebuoys, one of which should be provided with a self igniting light and self activating smoke signal and the other provided with a buoyant line of at least 18 metres in length, all of approved type;
  - iv) means of recovering a person from the water;
  - v) a line throwing appliance of approved type, with minimum two shot capability;
  - vi) 6 rocket parachute flares, of approved type; and  
2 buoyant smoke signals, of approved type; and  
4 red hand flares, of approved type;
  - vii) one hand held VHF radio, of an approved type;
  - viii) one float free satellite EPIRB, of an approved type.

### 7.1.3 Availability, Stowage and Maintenance of Survival Craft and Life Saving Appliances

7.1.3.1 All items of life-saving and survival equipment required by this Code should:

- i) be periodically serviced in accordance with the manufacturers instructions;
- ii) be mounted or stowed correctly in their assigned locations;
- iii) be maintained in good working order and be ready for use;
- iv) be checked before the vessel leaves port and whilst at sea;
- v) be inspected at regular intervals.

Refer to MGN 62 (M+F) – Servicing of Inflatable Liferrafts, Inflatable Boats, Inflatable Lifejackets and Hydrostatic Release Units, for further guidance on servicing of inflatable equipment and Hydrostatic release units.

7.1.3.2 Liferrafts should:

- i) be readily available for safe and rapid use in an emergency, taking into account any adjacent fire risk;
- ii) be capable of being launched under unfavourable conditions of trim and with the vessel heeled 15° either way;
- iii) be stowed in such a manner as to permit them to float free from their stowage, inflate and break free from the vessel in the event of its sinking;
- iv) be stowed clear of any overhanging projections, gear or rigging that could impede the liferafts float free operation;
- v) be provided with SOLAS B pack equipment or equivalent.

Refer to MGN 104 (M+F) – Stowage and Float Free Arrangements for Inflatable Liferrafts, and 130 (F) – The Stowage of Liferrafts and EPIRBs on UK Registered Fishing Vessels, for further guidance on stowage and float free arrangements.

Note: Lashings if used, should be fitted with an automatic (hydrostatic) release system of an approved type. The liferaft and any hydrostatic securing and release system should be installed strictly in accordance with the manufacturers instructions. Liferrafts and serviceable hydrostatic release units should be serviced annually by an authorised agency. Non-serviceable hydrostatic release units should be replaced by their expiry date.

7.1.3.3 Every EPIRB should:

- i) be fitted with a float free arrangement, whose operation will cause it to activate;
- ii) be stowed in such a position that it is protected from possible damage and is easily removable from its mounting for placing in any survival craft;
- iii) have the float-free arrangement routinely replaced or serviced in accordance with the manufacturers instructions;
- iv) have the power source replaced whenever necessary and at least before its expiry date;

- v) be registered, reference should be made to The Merchant Shipping (EPIRB Registration) Regulations SI 2000, No. 1850. Specific guidance is given in Marine Guidance Note MGN 150 (M+F) – Guidance on EPIRB Registration.
- vi) comply with IMO Resolution A810 (19)/ETS 300 062 (second edition) when renewed.

7.1.3.4 Lifejackets should:

- i) be stowed either in a deckhouse or other dry and readily accessible position;
- ii) have stowage positions clearly and permanently marked;
- iii) be provided with a light complying with SOLAS 1974 as amended;
- iv) be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

7.1.3.5 Lifebuoys should:

- i) be stowed near the bridge or on an exposed working deck;
- ii) not be permanently secured;
- iii) be marked with the vessel name and port of registry or fishing vessel number.

7.1.3.6 Line throwing appliances and pyrotechnic signals should:

- i) be stowed on or near the bridge in a dry and readily accessible location, clearly marked;
- ii) be packed in suitable containers.

7.1.4 **Embarkation into liferafts**

7.1.4.1 Arrangements should be made for warning the crew when the vessel is about to be abandoned.

7.1.4.2 For vessels with embarkation areas, positioned more than 3 metres above the waterline, ladders or other suitable means should be provided to allow for safe embarkation into the liferafts.

7.1.4.3 Liferaft launching and embarkation positions (including the water into which the liferaft is launched) should be illuminated by means of both main and emergency sources of power.

## CHAPTER 8 (EMERGENCY PROCEDURES)

### 8.1 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

#### 8.1.1 Inspections

8.1.1.1 Inspections of the life-saving equipment and fire appliances should be made at intervals of not more than one month.

#### 8.1.2 Drills

8.1.2.1 The skipper should ensure that the crew are trained in the use of all life-saving and fire appliances and equipment with which the vessel is provided and should ensure that all members of the crew know where the equipment is stowed. Such training should be carried out in drills, held in port or at sea, at intervals of not more than one month.

8.1.2.2 The drills referred to in section 8.1.2.1 should ensure that the crew thoroughly understand and are exercised in the duties which they have to perform with respect to the handling and operation of all life-saving, fire fighting and survival equipment. Flooding drills should also be incorporated.

8.1.2.3 If a vessel carries 5 or more crew, a muster list should be provided with clear instructions for each member of the crew, which should be followed in case of emergency.

8.1.2.4 The times, dates and particulars of inspections and drills should be recorded and available for future inspection.

## CHAPTER 9 (COMMUNICATIONS & NAVIGATION)

### 9.1 RADIO EQUIPMENT

- 9.1.1 Every vessel should be capable of maintaining an effective radio watch, including communication, transmission and reception of distress signals in the Global Maritime Distress Signal System (GMDSS) appropriate to the area in which it operates.
- 9.1.2 The vessel's crew should be familiar in the operation of the hand held VHF and the EPIRB and be trained in the setting up and operation of the portable radio equipment.
- 9.1.3 Reference should be made to:

The Merchant Shipping (Radio)(Fishing Vessels) Regulations, SI 1999 No. 3210

### 9.2 NAVIGATION LIGHTS, SHAPES AND SOUND SIGNALS

- 9.2.1 Vessels should be equipped to enable display of the navigation lights, shapes and sound signals appropriate to all foreseeable modes of operation, in daylight, darkness and in restricted visibility, in accordance with international requirements.
- 9.2.2 Reference should be made to:

The Merchant Shipping (Distress Signals and Prevention of Collisions) Regulations, SI 1996 No. 75 and Merchant Shipping Notice 1642.

### 9.3 VISIBILITY FROM THE WHEELHOUSE

- 9.3.1 *Every vessel should be so constructed that the person steering has a clear view to the sea surface, 90 metres ahead, when at the principal steering position from within the wheelhouse.* N
- 9.3.2 Further guidance is contained in Marine Guidance Note 188 (F): Fishing Vessels: Wheelhouse Visibility.

### 9.4 NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT

#### 9.4.1 Compass

- 9.4.1.1 Vessels should be fitted with a properly adjusted standard magnetic compass, or other means independent of any power supply to determine the vessel's heading and display (with electric light) the reading at the main steering position. Vessels fitted with a standard magnetic compass should have a valid deviation card. Guidance is contained in Marine Guidance Note No. MGN 57 (M+F) - Operating, maintaining and testing magnetic compasses.

#### 9.4.2 Other Navigational Equipment

- 9.4.2.1 Vessels should be provided with efficient means acceptable to the Certifying Authority for:
- i) locating position;
  - ii) measuring speed and distance; and
  - iii) measuring the depth of water.
- 9.4.2.2 Electronic aids to navigation should be tested frequently and well maintained.

### 9.4.3 **Nautical Publications**

9.4.3.1 Charts and publications carried should be appropriate to the intended area of operation of the vessel. The Admiralty Kingfisher "Fisherman's Pilot" is recommended as a satisfactory basic publication for this purpose.

9.4.3.2 The charts to be carried should be those-

- i) that are of such a scale and which contain sufficient detail as clearly to show:
  - a) all navigation marks that may be used by a vessel when navigating the waters that are comprised in the chart;
  - b) all known hazards affecting those waters; and
  - c) any information concerning traffic separation schemes, two-way routes, recommended tracks, inshore traffic zones and deep water routes applicable to those waters, as well as areas that are to be avoided;
- ii) that are either published by the Hydrographer of the Navy or any authority in any country other than the United Kingdom duly exercising functions similar to those of the Hydrographer, and are of a similar scale and contain equivalent detail; and
- iii) which, in all cases, are of the latest available edition and have been adequately corrected.

9.4.3.3 An equivalent electronic chart display and information system (ECDIS) may be accepted as meeting the chart obligations of section 9.4.3.2.

9.4.3.4 Reference should be made to:

The Merchant Shipping (Carriage of Nautical Publications) Regulations, SI 1998 No. 2647.

### 9.4.4 **Signalling Lamp/Light for Use During Search and Recovery**

9.4.4.1 Vessels should be provided with either:

- i) a portable waterproof electric torch suitable for morse signalling and a searchlight; or
- ii) an efficient portable daylight signalling lamp with searchlight capability.

9.4.4.2 Portable equipment should be provided with batteries of sufficient capacity for not less than two hours continuous operation and spare bulbs.

### 9.4.5 **Miscellaneous Equipment**

9.4.5.1 Vessels should be provided with a radar reflector, where applicable, - reference should be made to Merchant Shipping Notice No. M.1638 - Radar reflectors for small vessels.

## CHAPTER 10 (CREW ACCOMMODATION)

### 10.1 ACCOMMODATION

#### 10.1.1 Vessel Requirements

*Note: Sections 10.1.1.1 to 10.1.1.8 inclusive apply to all vessels constructed on or after 23 November 1995 and, in so far as the structural characteristics permit, vessels of 18 metres in length LBP and over constructed before that date. N+E*

10.1.1.1 The crews living quarters, where they exist, should be such as to minimise noise, vibration, the effects of motion and acceleration and unpleasant odours from other parts of the vessel.

10.1.1.2 On vessels with crew accommodation, toilets, wash basins and if possible a shower should be installed and the respective areas should be properly ventilated.

10.1.1.3 Adequate stowage facilities for clothing and personal effects should be provided for each person on board.

10.1.1.4 The galley and mess room, where these exist, should be of adequate size, well lit and ventilated and easy to clean.

10.1.1.5 A refrigerator or other low temperature food storage should be provided

10.1.1.6 As far as is practicable, technical measures should be taken to reduce noise levels in working and accommodation spaces

10.1.1.7 An electric lighting system should be installed that is capable of supplying adequate light to all enclosed accommodation and working spaces.

10.1.1.8 An adequate supply of fresh drinking water should be provided

#### 10.1.2 Additional Requirements for Vessels Constructed on or after 23 November 1995

10.1.2.1 The location, structure, soundproofing, means of insulation and layout of the crew accommodation and means of access should be such as to provide adequate protection against weather and sea, vibration, noise and unpleasant odours from other parts of the vessel likely to disturb the crew during their period of rest;

10.1.2.2 Where the design, dimensions or purpose of the vessel allow, the crew accommodation should be located so as to minimise the effects of motion and acceleration.

10.1.2.3 Appropriate measures should be taken as far as possible to protect non-smokers from discomfort caused by tobacco smoke.

10.1.2.4 Appropriate lighting should be provided within the living quarters such that:

- i) adequate general lighting is provided;
- ii) reduced lighting is provided in way of crew sleeping spaces;
- iii) local lighting is provided for each berth.



- 10.1.2.5 On vessels with crew accommodation, shower facilities with hot and cold running water should be provided.
- 10.1.2.6 Hot water supply systems (if fitted) should be suitably designed, installed and fit for purpose.
- 10.1.2.7 Crew accommodation spaces should be properly ventilated to ensure a constant supply of fresh air and to prevent condensation.
- 10.1.3 **Recommendations for Existing Vessels of less than 18m in length LBP that are at sea for more than 24 hours:**
  - 10.1.3.1 **When a vessel is intended to be at sea for more than 24 hours an adequate standard of accommodation should be provided on board. In considering such accommodation, the primary concern should be directed towards providing facilities that contribute to the health and welfare aspects of those on board i.e. the sleeping accommodation, the ventilation, the sanitary facilities, the lighting and the fresh water and galley services. Whenever possible, consideration should be given to providing the facilities that are detailed in section 10.1.1. E**

## 10.2 SIGNS

- 10.2.1 The following signs should be displayed where appropriate;
  - i) "Emergency escape" (Luminescent, Green/White) to indicate escape routes;
  - ii) "Keep closed at sea" (Blue/White) on both sides of those doors which require to be closed at sea to satisfy stability requirements;
  - iii) "First Aid" (Green/White) at the first aid locker;
  - iv) "Fire-fighting equipment", (Red/White) for fire extinguishers, CO<sub>2</sub> release stations, fire hydrants and hose stowage and push button alarms;
  - v) "Oil discharge prohibited at sea" (Blue/White) at overboard discharges that are capable of discharging oily bilge water;
  - vi) Other signs, when identified through risk assessment.

Refer also to The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Safety Signs and Signals) Regulations, SI 2001 No. 3444 and MSN 1763 (M+F).

## CHAPTER 11 (CLEAN SEAS)

### 11.1 CLEAN SEAS

- 11.1.1 All vessels should comply with international, national, regional and local requirements for the prevention of marine pollution that are applicable to the area in which the vessel is operating. Responsibility for the vessel to be properly equipped and maintained and to ensure that the skipper receives up-to-date and adequate information, rests mainly with the owner.
- 11.1.2 Oily residues and garbage or refuse should be landed ashore at proper disposal facilities and not discharged or dumped into the sea.
- 11.1.3 Owners should be aware of the following in relation to the prevention pollution of the sea:
- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Sewage        | When the direct overboard discharge of sewage is prohibited by administrations/authorities in an area of operation, the provision of "holding tanks" of sufficient capacity to store waste for discharge to shore facilities may be needed for a vessel to comply.   |
| Garbage       | The disposal of garbage into the sea is regulated by the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage) Regulations, SI 1998 No. 1377. Arrangements for the retention of garbage on board and for discharge to shore reception facilities should be provided. Arrangements should be varied as necessary to comply with special requirements that may be applied by administrations/authorities in the area in which a vessel operates. Reference should be made to Merchant Shipping Notice No. MSN 1720 (M+F) - Prevention of Pollution by Garbage Regulations 1998. |
| Oil           | The prevention of oil pollution requirements are contained within – The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations SI 1996 No. 2154. Section 14(4) of these regulations stipulates the requirements for vessels less than 400 GT (retention/oil filtering equipment)  |
| Air Pollution | Guidance for compliance with Marpol 73/78 Annex VI Control of Emission of Nitrogen Oxides (NOX) from marine diesel engines is contained within MGN 142 (M+F).  |



UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

## UNITED KINGDOM FISHING VESSEL CERTIFICATE

*Issued under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995*

Name of Vessel	Official number (RSS) and Fishing Number	Port of Registry	Registered Length	Overall Length	Date on which keel was laid

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY:**

- i) that the vessel has been surveyed in accordance with section 1.3 of the provisions of the Code of Safe Working Practice for the Construction and Use of 15 metres (LOA) to less than 24 metres (L) Fishing Vessels;
- ii) that the vessel has been found to comply with the requirements of the Code that are applicable to the vessel, (for vessels that are classed see overleaf);
- iii) that the life saving appliances are sufficient for a total of ..... persons;
- iv) that the vessel is fitted with the lights, shapes and sound signals to comply with the International Collision Regulations and is fitted with navigational equipment and carries nautical publications in accordance with the Code.
- v) that the vessel complies with the requirements of the (Radio)(Fishing Vessels) Regulations that are applicable to the vessel and is equipped for operation in sea area(s) .....only.
- vi) that the vessel has been assigned the operating limits.....(if applicable)

This Certificate is valid until \_\_\_\_\_ subject to a satisfactory inspection in accordance with 1.3.6 of the Code being completed not less than 24 months and not more than 36 months from the recorded date of the renewal survey.

Issued at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of issue of certificate                      Date of issue of certificate

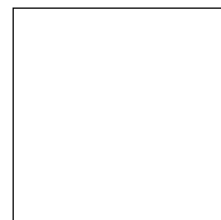
The undersigned declares that he is duly authorised by the Department for Transport to issue this Certificate.

Signature.....

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_

Survey completion date.....



Name of vessel.....MSF

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**Vessels classed with a Classification Society**

For vessels which are classed at the time of survey, it is a condition of this certificate that classification of the vessel is maintained throughout the certificate's validity.

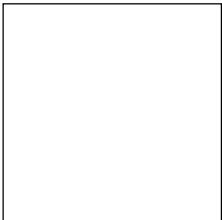
**Extension of Certificate (Code 1.3.8.3)**

The validity of this certificate  
has been extended until.....

Signature.....

Name |\_\_\_\_\_|

Designation |\_\_\_\_\_|



**Existing Vessels constructed before 23 November 2002 (Code 1.3.1.4)**

Record of previous exemptions to the Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975:

Rule exemption	Valid until	Subject to the condition(s)

**Inspection (Code 1.3.6)**

It is confirmed that the vessel continues to comply with the requirements of the Code that are applicable to this vessel and that annual self certification declarations have been completed by the owner.

Date of Inspection	Place of Inspection	Signature and name of Surveyor

*This Certificate should be framed and posted in a conspicuous place onboard the vessel*

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An Executive Agency of the Department for Transport

**ANNUAL SELF-CERTIFICATION UNDER THE CODE OF SAFE WORKING PRACTICE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF 15 M (LOA) TO LESS THAN 24 M (L) FISHING VESSELS**

On satisfactory completion of an annual check on the vessel (required at each anniversary date of expiry of the full term Fishing Vessel Certificate and on change of ownership), the owner should sign the declaration below:

**Name of Owner** .....

**Address of Owner** .....

.....

**Name of Vessel** .....

**RSS No** ..... **Length Overall** .....

**Registered Length** ..... **Date Check Completed** .....

**Port letters and number** ..... **Mode(s) of Fishing** .....

**DECLARATION**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT:**

- i) all fire fighting appliances, life saving appliances and safety equipment that are carried on board the vessel have been suitably maintained and are within date;
- ii) the Radio equipment is functioning correctly;
- iii) the shipborne navigational equipment, nautical publications and lights, shapes and sound signal appliances, that are required for compliance with the Collision Regulations, are carried on board and are functioning correctly;
- iv) the risk assessment remains appropriate to the vessel's fishing method and mode of operation
- v) no known alteration, damage or deterioration to the vessel or its equipment has occurred in service that would affect the vessel's compliance with the requirements of the Code or the vessel's stability;
- vi) weathertight doors and hatches are functioning correctly; and
- vii) crew training and certification are valid.

**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Signature of Owner** ..... **Date** .....

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Signature of Owner** ..... **Date** .....

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Signature of Owner** ..... **Date** .....

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Signature of Owner** ..... **Date** .....

**Notes** - *This form should be retained with the Fishing Vessel Certificate for subsequent inspection*  
 - *A false declaration may render the owner liable to prosecution*

### INFORMATION AS TO STABILITY OF FISHING VESSELS

The book to be kept on board the vessel pursuant to the requirements of this Code, should contain the following information:

1. A statement of the vessel's name, port of registry, official number, registration letters, principal dimensions, date and place of build, gross and net tonnage, displacement and minimum freeboard in the deepest foreseeable operating condition.
2. A profile plan of the vessel drawn to scale showing the names of all compartments, tanks, storerooms, crew accommodation spaces and the position of the mid-point of the length between perpendiculars (LBP).
3. A tabular statement of the capacities and position of the centres of gravity, longitudinally and vertically for every compartment available for the carriage of cargo, fuel, stores, feed water, domestic water, water ballast, crew and effects. The free surface function defined in paragraph 9 below should also be included for each tank designed to carry liquid. Details of the centroid of the total internal volume of the fish-hold(s) should be included in such information. The calculation may take into account the effect of assuming a void space between the top of the catch and the underside of the deckhead provided that under normal operating conditions, control of loading in the hold is such that the actual void space above the catch will always be equal to or greater than that assumed in such a calculation.
4. Where deck cargo is carried by a vessel the estimated maximum weight and disposition of such deck cargo should be included in the information in the appropriate operating conditions, and show compliance with the stability criteria set out in the Code.
5. A diagram or tabular statement should be provided showing for a suitable range of mean draughts and at the trim stated, the following hydrostatic particulars of the vessel:
  - (i) the heights of the transverse metacentres;
  - (ii) moments to change trim one centimetre;
  - (iii) tonnes per centimetre immersion;
  - (iv) longitudinal position of the centre of flotation;
  - (v) vertical and longitudinal positions of the centre of buoyancy;
  - (vi) displacement in tonnes.

Where a vessel has a raked keel, the same datum (a horizontal line through the intersection of the hull moulded line with the vessel centreline, amidships) should be used for the hydrostatics as employed in determining the information required in paragraph 3 above. In such cases full information should be included in respect of the rake and dimensions of the keel and may be given in the form of a diagram. The positioning of the draft marks relative to this datum should be included on such a diagram.

6. A diagram or table should be provided showing cross curves of stability indicating the assumed position of the axis from which the righting levers are measured and the trim which has been assumed. Where a vessel has a raked keel a horizontal datum through the intersection of the hull moulded line with the vessel centreline, amidships, should be used.

**On existing vessels, any datum other than a horizontal line through the intersection of the hull moulded line with the vessel centreline, amidships, should be clearly defined. E**

7. The information provided under paragraphs 5 and 6 above should be at such a nominal trim that represents accurately the vessel in all normal operating trims. Where calculations show that there are significant numerical variations in these operating trims the information provided under paragraphs 5 and 6 above should be repeated over such a range of trims to allow an accurate interpolation of such information at any normal operating trim.
8. Superstructure deckhouses, companionways located on the freeboard deck, including hatchway structures may be taken into account in deriving such cross-curves of stability provided that their location, integrity and means of closure will effectively contribute to the buoyancy.
9. An example should be included in such information to show the corrections applied to the transverse metacentric height and righting levers (GZ) for the effects of the free surfaces of liquids in tanks and should be calculated and taken into account as follows:
- (i) the metacentric height in metres should be reduced by an amount equal to the total of the free surface functions for each tank divided by the vessel's displacement in tonnes. For each tank the free surface function is given by:
    - $1.025 \times \pi i$  where  $p$  = specific gravity of the liquid;
    - $i$  = transverse moment of inertia of the surface
    - $(i = \frac{LB^3}{12}$  where  $L$ =length and  $B$ =breadth of the free surface in metres)
    - i.e.  $\text{correction} = \frac{\text{Sum of } \pi i}{\text{Displacement}}$
  - (ii) the righting lever (GZ) curves should be corrected by either:
    - (a) adding the free surface correction calculated under (i) above to the value in metres of the calculated height of centre of gravity of the vessel above datum; or
    - (b) making direct calculations of the heeling moment due to the liquid surface being inclined at the selected angle of heel where such calculations take proper account of the position of liquid surface in relation to the geometric configuration of the tank. The correction to the righting lever (GZ) at any selected angle of heel should then be the summation of the individual heeling moments of the tanks considered, divided by the vessels displacement.
10. A stability statement and diagram should be provided for the usual condition of the vessel:
- (i) in the lightship condition:
    - the vessel should be assumed to be empty except for liquids in machinery and in piping systems including header tanks. The weight and position of the centre of gravity of any permanent ballast or fishing gear should be indicated;
  - (ii) in each of the following circumstances so far as they may be applicable to the vessel in its foreseeable operating conditions:
    - (a) on departure from port:
      - the vessel should be assumed to be loaded with the necessary equipment, materials and supplies including ice, fuel, stores and water;
    - (b) on arrival at fishing grounds:
      - as sub-paragraph (a) above but account taken of the consumption of fuel and stores;
    - (c) on arrival at fishing grounds:
      - as sub-paragraph (b) above but the appropriate icing-up allowance as set out in paragraph 14 below should be taken into account;

- (d) on departure from fishing grounds:  
the vessel should be assumed to be loaded with its maximum catch but account taken of the consumption of fuel and stores;
- (e) on departure from fishing grounds:  
as sub-paragraph (d) above but the appropriate icing-up allowance as set out in paragraph 14 below should be taken into account;
- (f) on departure from fishing grounds:  
the vessel should be assumed to be loaded with 20% of its maximum catch but account taken of the consumption of fuel and stores;
- (g) on departure from fishing grounds:  
as sub-paragraph (f) above but the appropriate icing-up allowance as set out in paragraph 14 below should be taken into account;
- (h) on arrival at port with maximum catch:  
account should be taken of the consumption of fuel and stores;
- (i) on arrival at port with 20% maximum catch:  
account should be taken of the consumption of fuel and stores;
- (j) if any part of the catch normally remains on deck, further statements and diagrams appertaining to that condition in all the appropriate circumstances set out in sub-paragraphs (d) to (i) inclusive should be provided;

The total free surface correction for the effect of liquid in tanks should be applied to each loading condition set out in the foregoing provisions of this paragraph. The free surface correction should take into account the amounts of fuel, lubricating oil, feed and fresh water in the vessel in each such loading condition.

- (iii) Working instructions, specifying in detail the manner in which the vessel is to be loaded and ballasted, should be included within the Trim and Stability Manual. The instructions should generally be based upon the conditions that are specified in paragraph (ii) above. For vessels in which no provision has been made for the carriage of deck cargo, the working instructions should also contain the following statement:

“Provision has not been made within the vessel’s stability for deck stowage of catch. Catch landed on deck should be stowed below as soon as is possible and prior to landing further catch”

**11.** Where provision is made in a particular area of the vessel for the washing and cleaning of the catch which could lead to an accumulation of loose water a further statement and diagram should be provided appropriate to that condition which takes into account the adverse effects of such loose water, it being assumed that:

- i) the amount of loose water on deck is determined by the size and disposition of the retaining devices; and
- ii) in all other respects the vessel is loaded in accordance with (d) or (f) of paragraph 10 above, whichever is the less favorable with regard to the vessels stability.

**12.** Each stability statement should consist of:

- (i) a profile drawn to a suitable scale showing the disposition of the deadweight components;
- (ii) a tabular statement of all the components of the displacement including weights, positions of centres of gravity, transverse metacentric height corrected for free surface effects, trim and draughts;



- (iii) a diagram showing a curve of righting levers (GZ), corrected for free surface effects and derived from the cross-curves of stability, showing, if appropriate, the angle at which the lower edges of any opening which cannot be closed watertight will be immersed. The diagram should also show the corresponding numerical values of the stability parameters defined in section 3.1.2 of this Code.
13. The information provided under sub-paragraph (iii) of paragraph 12 above should be supplemented by a graph or tabular statement showing the maximum permissible deadweight moment over a range of draughts which should cover foreseeable operating conditions. At any given draught this maximum permissible deadweight moment value is the total vertical moment about a convenient base line, of all the component weights of the total deadweight which, at that draught, will ensure compliance with the minimum stability criteria requirements of the Code. If an allowance for the weight due to icing-up is required, this should be taken into account by a suitable reduction in the permissible moment. Where the stability information is supplied in accordance with the requirements of this paragraph the tabular statement required in accordance with sub-paragraph 12(ii) above should include the deadweight moment appropriate to each condition and an example should be added to the stability information to demonstrate the assessment of the stability.
14. The icing-up allowance which represents the added weight due to ice accretion on the exposed surfaces of the hull, superstructure, deck, deckhouses and companionways should be calculated as follows:
- (i) full icing allowance:
- all exposed horizontal surfaces (decks, house tops, etc.) should be assumed to carry an ice weight of 30 kilogrammes per square metre.
- The projected lateral area of the vessel above the waterline (a silhouette) should be assumed to carry an ice weight of 15 kilogrammes per square metre. The height of the centre of gravity should be calculated according to the heights of the respective areas and in the case of the projected lateral area the effect of sundry booms, rails, wires, etc., which will not have been included in the area calculated should be taken into account by increasing by 5% the weight due to the lateral area and the moment of this weight by 10%.
- This allowance should apply in winter (1<sup>st</sup> November to 30<sup>th</sup> April inclusive in the northern hemisphere) to vessels which operate in the following areas:
- (a) the area north of latitude 66°30'N. between longitude 10°W. and the Norwegian Coast;
- (b) the area north of latitude 63°N. between longitude 28°W. and 10°W.;
- (c) the area north of latitude 45°N. between the North American continent and longitude 28°W.;
- (d) all sea areas north of the European, Asian and North American continents east and west of the areas defined in (a), (b) and (c) above;
- (e) Bering and Okhotsk seas and Tatar Strait;
- (f) South of latitude 60°S.
- (ii) Half of the full icing allowance:
- this should be taken as one half of that calculated under sub-paragraph (i) of this paragraph and should apply in winter to vessels which operate in all areas north of latitude 61°N. between longitude 28°W. and the Norwegian Coast and south of the areas defined as the lower limit for the full icing allowance between longitude 28°W. and the Norwegian Coast.

15. Information should be provided in respect of the assumptions made in calculating the condition of the vessel in each of the circumstances set out in paragraph 10 above for the following:
- (i) duration of the voyage in terms of days spent in reaching the fishing grounds, on the grounds and returning to port;
  - (ii) the weight and disposition of the ice in the hold at departure from port including the heights of stowage;
  - (iii) consumption rates during the voyage for fuel, water, stores and other consumables;
  - (iv) ratio by weight of the ice packed with the catch in the fish hold;
  - (v) melting rates for each part of the voyage of the ice packed with the catch and the ice remaining unused in the hold.
16. A copy of a report of an inclining test of the vessel and the derivation therefrom of the lightship particulars should be provided.
17. A statement should be given by or on behalf of the owner of the vessel that the statements and diagrams supplied with respect to the operating conditions set out in paragraph 10 above are based on the worst foreseeable service conditions in respect of the weights and disposition of fish carried in the hold or on deck, ice in the hold, fuel, water and other consumables.







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