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## **INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 170**

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### **Early Implementation of SOLAS Regulations II-2/1 and II-2/10**

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#### **Guidance and Instructions for Bahamas Recognised Organisations, Bahamas Approved Nautical Inspectors, Ship Owners, Managers and Masters**

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#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. This Bulletin provides guidance on the early implementation of amended Regulations 1 and 10 of Chapter II-2 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974, as amended (SOLAS) by the Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA).

#### **2. Application**

- 2.1. This Bulletin applies to all ships registered in The Bahamas to which Chapter II-2 of SOLAS is applicable.

#### **3. Background**

- 3.1. The Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted amendments to SOLAS regulations II-2/1 and II-2/10 at its 97<sup>th</sup> session – see Resolution MSC.409(97) ([click here](#)).
- 3.2. The planned entry into force date for the amended regulations is 01 January 2020.
- 3.3. The Maritime Safety Committee, at its 98<sup>th</sup> session, invited SOLAS contracting governments to implement the amendments prior to the entry into force date – see MSC.1/Circ.1566 ([click here](#)).

#### 4. Amendment Details

4.1. The following new paragraph is added after the existing paragraph 2.8 of SOLAS Regulation II-2/1 - Application:

*"2.9 Regulation 10.5.1.2.2, as amended by Resolution MSC.409(97), applies to ships constructed before 1 January 2020, including those constructed before 1 July 2012".*

4.1.1. In paragraph 5.1.2.2 of SOLAS Regulation II-2/10 – Firefighting, the last sentence is replaced with the following (new text in blue):

*"In the case of domestic boilers of less than 175 kW, or boilers protected by fixed water-based local application fire-extinguishing systems as required by paragraph 5.6, an approved foam-type extinguisher of at least 135 l capacity is not required."*

4.2. This means that a 135-litre minimum capacity foam-type extinguisher is not required in the boiler room of any ship which has domestic boilers of less than 175 kW, and is no longer required for boiler rooms where the boilers are protected by a fixed water-based local application fire-extinguishing system (as required by SOLAS II-2/10.5.6).

4.3. It should be noted that the amended regulations apply to ships constructed before the planned entry into force date.

4.4. Noting MSC.1/Circ.1566, the BMA accepts voluntary early implementation of amended SOLAS regulations II-2/1 and II-2/10.

4.5. The BMA has advised its early adoption of the amended regulations to the IMO and has entered this in the IMO Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) ([click here](#)).

4.6. A copy of this Bulletin is to be kept with the statutory certificates on board any ship where the amended regulations have been implemented early, in case of any queries by Port State Control Officers or third-party inspectors.

4.7. The BMA will not enforce its decision to voluntarily implement the amendments to SOLAS II-2/1 and II-2/10 to ships entitled to fly the flag of other contracting Governments, when calling at ports in The Bahamas.

## **5. Revision History**

Rev.1 (22 June 2018) – Revised link in paragraph 4.5 to reflect transfer of the GISIS notification to the new “Voluntary Early Implementation” section of GISIS.

Rev.0 (18 October 2017) – First issue