



INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 180

Early Implementation of Regulation 3.2.5 of the IGC Code

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

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This Bulletin provides guidance on the early implementation of amended regulation 3.2.5 of the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (IGC Code) by the Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA).

2. Application

- 2.1. This Bulletin applies to all ships registered in The Bahamas to which the IGC Code is applicable.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted amendments to the IGC Code at its 97th session – see Resolution MSC.411(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 also invited SOLAS contracting governments to take action as appropriate pending formal entry into force – see MSC.1/Circ.1549 ([click here](#)).

4. Amendment Details

- 4.1. The existing paragraph 3.2.5 of the IGC Code is to be replaced by the following:

"3.2.5 Windows and sidescuttles facing the cargo area and on the sides of the superstructures and deckhouses within the limits specified in 3.2.4, except wheelhouse windows, shall be constructed to "A-60" class. Sidescuttles in the shell below the uppermost continuous deck and in the first tier of the superstructure or deckhouse shall be of fixed (non-opening) type".

- 4.2. The new paragraph removes the requirement for wheelhouse windows to be constructed to not less than "A-0" class.
- 4.3. Noting MSC.1/Circ.1549, the BMA accepts voluntary early implementation of amended IGC Code regulation 3.2.5 for ships registered in The Bahamas in lieu of the existing regulation 3.2.5, from the date of this Bulletin and to existing vessels built on or after 01 January 2016 on replacement of their wheelhouse windows.
- 4.4. The BMA has advised its early acceptance of the amended regulation to the IMO and has entered an equivalence in the IMO Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) ([click here](#)).
- 4.5. A copy of this Bulletin is to be kept with the statutory certificates on board any ship where the amended regulation has been implemented early, in case of any queries by Port State Control Officers or third-party inspectors.

5. Revision History

Rev.0 (06 March 2019) – First issue