



Merchant Shipping Directorate



ESCAPE ARRANGEMENTS FROM THE LOWER PART OF MACHINERY SPACES

Technical Notice SLS.39 Rev. 1

*Notice to Ship-owners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters,
Owners' Representatives and Recognized Organizations*

The Directorate would like to draw the attention of all concerned to the outcome of the 111th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee regarding the interpretation of SOLAS regulations II-2/13.4.1 and 13.4.2 on the term "*lower part*" used in connection with the means of escape from spaces below the bulkhead deck for passenger ships, and from machinery spaces of category A for cargo ships.

Reference is being made to IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.1689/Rev.1](#) regarding the work arrangement and port State inspection on ship escape arrangements from the lower part of machinery spaces under the requirement of SOLAS regulations II-2/13.4.1 and 13.4.2.

Such a Circular invites PSC Authorities to accept in principle the design arrangement approved by the flag State and, when appropriate, consult with the flag Administrations (Procedures for port State control, 2025 (resolution A.1206(34)), paragraph 1.2.5, as may be revised).

It is recommended that this Technical Notice be retained onboard and made available for inspection purposes when required.

Version	Date	Description of Change
1	21 August 2026	Incorporate changes as per outcome from MSC 111

Merchant Shipping Directorate

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Merchant Shipping Directorate
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