

M.S. Notice 04 of 2012

No:75 - NT (20) / 2011

Dated: 09th February 2012

Subject: June 2009 Amendments to SOLAS 1974 - Carriage Requirements for a Bridge Navigational Watch Alarm System (BNWAS), on Indian ships regarding.

Back ground:

1' The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of International Maritime Organisation (IMO) during its 86th Session had adopted the resolution MSC'282 on 5th June 2009 which contains various amendments to International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974 (SOLAS 74) including the said amendments for fitment of BNWAS as per Reg' 19 of Chapter - V of SOLAS' i'e" *Carriage Requirements for ship borne navigational systems and equipment*" It is to be noted that these amendments to SOLAS entered into force with effect from 01st January 2011 internationally'

Carriage of BNWAS on Indian ships under Regulation Ch' V 19 -SOLAS 1974

2' India has ratified/acceded to SOLAS 1974 and/or acceded to subsequent protocols thereafter' It has been proposed to incorporate these provisions in the new draft Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Rules, 2012 and this draft rules is under consideration of Govt' of India for promulgation' This may however take some time, therefore, in the interim, the Director General of Shipping issues the directives in respect of Carriage of BNWAS on Indian ships, under Section 406 of Indian Merchant Shipping Act 1958 (as amended) as conditions of granting GTL' Under SOLAS Chapter V - Safety of Navigation, Regulation 19'2'2'3 &'4 has been added in this regard' All Indian ships of prescribed categories are required to be fitted with BNWAS in a phased manner, conforming to SOLAS performance standards, as per requirements for compliance applicable to different categories of ships and time frame for fitment as follows-

- a) **Passenger ships Not later than first Survey* after 1 July 2012;**
- b) **Cargo ships of 3,000 gross tonnage and upwards Not later than first Survey* after 1 July 2012;**
- c) **Cargo ships of 500 gross tonnage and upwards but less than 3,000 gross tonnage Not later than first Survey* after 1 July 2013;**
- d) **Cargo ships of 150 gross tonnage and upwards but less than 500 gross tonnage Not later than first Survey* after 1 July 2014;**

Note: *Means the first annual survey, the first periodical survey or the first renewal

survey in respect of the Passenger Ship Safety Certificate in the case of passenger ships, or the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate in the case of cargo ships'

Exceptions:

- 3' The requirements of this notice shall not be applicable to the following -
- a) Warships, Naval Auxiliaries and other ships owned or operated only on Govt' non commercial service;
 - b) Fishing vessel,
 - c) Ships not propelled by mechanical means;
 - d) Wooden ships of primitive built
 - e) ships which will be permanently taken out of service within two years after the implementation date'

Owners/ operators of ships falling under 3 (e) may approach the Directorate for grant of exemption/relaxation from BNWAS requirement at least 6 months in advance of the prescribed deadlines'

Performance Standards for BNWAS:

- 4' For purpose of compliance with this MS Notice, all Indian ships fitted with BNWAS equipment as specified above shall meet the performance standards specified in Resolution MSC'128(75); set out by the International Maritime Organization (IMO)' Type approval certificate issued by Government of country of manufacture of equipment will be accepted' In addition, the type approval certificate issued by RO's recognised by the DGS will be accepted provided it has authority of the country in which, the BNWAS is manufactured'

Second hand acquisition:

- 5' All such vessels shall be considered as if ordered for registration under Indian flag vessel on day of their'keel laid date' for the purpose of this M'S' Notice No' 04 of 2012' No favorable treatment shall be extended to second hand acquisitions'

Ship Certification and Verification:

- 6' For the purpose of efficient and effective navigational systems, equipments and associated arrangements including carriage of BNWAS equipment, the Indian ship shall be inspected and surveyed by the Authorized Official of the Directorate, MMD or the Recognized Organization approved by the Central Government to

verify the compliance with this notice and on satisfactory completion of inspection/survey, the ship shall be issued with appropriate certificate in accordance with provision of M'S' Act 1958 (as amended)' The record of Equipment (Form'E') of Cargo Ship Safety Equipment or Cargo Ship Equipment Certificate and in case of Passenger Ship, the Record of Equipment of Passenger Ship Safety Certificate (Form'P') as applicable, shall be updated to this affect'

Conclusion

7' Keeping in view the aforesaid amendments, the Ship Master / Ship Owners / Ship Managers/ Ship Operators and all concerned are hereby informed that appropriate measures need to be taken by them to give full & complete effect to these amendments as per Regulation 19'2'2'3 of Chapter V of SOLAS for compliance with BNWAS requirements by the prescribed deadlines.

8' All concerned are therefore directed to adhere to this notice to enhance efficiency of safety of navigation and maritime traffic.

9' This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping & Ex-officio Addl. Secretary to Govt. of India.

sd/-
(Capt S.I. Abul Kalam Azad)
Nautical Surveyor