

## **IMO Updates (adopted by MSC 84)**

### **Emergency towing arrangement and procedures**

SOLAS regulation II-1/3-4 (Emergency towing arrangements on tankers), has been extended to ships other than tankers >20,000GT; in force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010. MSC 84 also approved Guidelines for Owners/Operators on preparing Emergency Towing Procedures (MSC. 1/Circ. 1255).

All ships shall be provided with a ship-specific emergency towing procedure applicable as follows:

- All (i.e. existing and new) passenger ships, not later than 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010;
- Cargo ships constructed on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010;
- Cargo ships constructed on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010, not later than 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012.

The procedure shall be based on existing arrangement and equipment available on board the ship, i.e. no new equipment required. However, the procedure shall be specific for the respective ship.

The procedure shall include:

- drawing of fore and aft deck showing possible emergency towing arrangement;
- inventory of equipment on board that can be used for emergency towing;
- means and methods of communication; and
- sample procedure to facilitate the preparation for and conducting of emergency towing operators.