



**MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF
SINGAPORE
SHIPPING CIRCULAR TO SHIPOWNERS
NO. 28 OF 2017**

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21 December 2017

Applicable to: Shipowners, shipmanagers, operators, Masters of Singapore registered ships, including passenger ships and Recognised Organisations

**APPLICATION OF NOISE LIMIT TO SINGAPORE REGISTERED NEW SHIP
BELOW 1600GT**

1. The Noise Code regulated by SOLAS regulation II-1/3-12 had entered into force on 01st July 2014. Although the Code is applicable to ships of 1600GT and above, the Code may be applied to new ships of a gross tonnage of less than 1,600 as far as reasonable and practical, to the satisfaction of the Administration.
2. This Circular is to inform the ship owners, managers and operators that the Singapore Administration will be applying maximum noise limit to service, working and accommodation spaces of Singapore registered new ship¹ below 1600GT that is keel laid on or after 01st July 2018.
3. Ship owners, managers and operators of new ship of below 1600GT are required to ensure the following are complied with:
 - a) As far as practicable comply with the maximum noise level limits for spaces specified in section 4.2 of the Noise Code.
 - b) The noise level in accommodation spaces² should as far as practicable comply with the maximum noise limit specified in section 4.2 of the Noise Code, and in general, shall not exceed 75dB(A).

¹ "New ship" means a ship other than those the Noise Code does not apply to as defined in Para. 1.3.4.

² Under para 1.4.1 of the Code "accommodation spaces" means cabins, offices (for carrying out ship's business), hospitals, messrooms, recreation rooms (such as lounges, smoke rooms, cinemas, gymnasiums, libraries and hobbies and games rooms) and open recreation areas to be used by seafarers.

- c) The noise level in the navigation spaces³ should as far as practicable comply with the maximum noise limit specified in section 4.2 of the Noise Code to facilitate the communication within the space and external radio-communications and in general, shall not exceed 70dB(A).
 - d) Seafarers without hearing protectors⁴ shall not be exposed to noise levels greater than 85 dB(A) exceeding 8hrs within a 24-hour period. Suitable hearing protectors shall be given and used by the seafarers if the noise level is greater than 85 dB(A).
 - e) Seafarers even when wearing hearing protectors, shall not be exposed to noise levels exceeding 120 dB(A).
4. New ship should on completion of the construction, or as soon as practicable thereafter, measure the noise levels in spaces specified in section 4.2 under the operating conditions specified in sections 3.3 and 3.4 of the Noise Code.
5. New ship that change to Singapore registry after delivery, should carry out the noise measurement survey on their first scheduled statutory renewal survey to ensure that standards in para.3 of this circular can be complied with.
6. The classification society should witness the noise measurement survey to ensure that the noise levels in all spaces are as far as practicable within the requirement specified in section 4.2 of the Noise Code and does not exceed the noise limit for spaces specified in para.3 of this circular. After completing the noise measurement survey, a noise measurement survey report shall be made for each new ship and endorsed by the classification society. The noise measurement survey report shall be made available on board the ship.
7. Any queries to this circular should email to shipping@mpa.gov.sg.

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MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

³ Under para. 4.2.2. of the Noise Code, "navigation spaces" means navigating bridge and chartrooms, look-out posts, including navigating bridge wing and windows, radio rooms (with radio equipment operating but not producing audio signals) and radar rooms.

⁴ Under para 1.4.17 of the Noise Code, a hearing protector" means a device worn to reduce the level of noise reaching the ears. Passive noise-cancelling headsets block noise from reaching the ear. Active noise-cancelling headphones generate a signal that cancels out the ambient noise within the headphones