



MPA  
SINGAPORE

**MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE  
SHIPPING CIRCULAR  
NO. 3 OF 2023**

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**Applicable to:** Shipowners, ship managers, operators, agents, recognised organisations, surveyors and masters of Singapore-registered ships

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 106<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE (MSC) OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION**

1. This circular informs the shipping community of the resolutions adopted by the MSC for the shipping community to prepare for the implementation of these resolutions.

2. The details of the resolutions can be found in the reports of MSC and is available on the [MPA website](#).

3. The resolutions adopted by MSC 106 include the following:

- a. **[RESOLUTION MSC.519\(106\)](#) – MEMBER STATES' OBLIGATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES UNDER THE SOLAS AND SAR CONVENTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF ARMED CONFLICTS**

The resolution reaffirms the obligations for all States that are Parties to the SAR Convention in the provision of effective and efficient SAR services upon notification of persons in distress at sea and that SAR services should be provided regardless of the nationality or status of the person or the circumstances in which that person is found.

- b. **[RESOLUTION MSC.520\(106\)](#) – AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974 (CHAPTER II-2)**

The resolution adopts amendments to regulations 3 and 4 of Chapter II-2 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, as amended. The amendments require ships carrying oil fuel shall prior to bunkering be provided with a declaration signed and certified by the oil fuel supplier's representative, that the oil fuel to

be supplied is in conformity with this regulation. A bunker delivery note for the oil fuel delivered is also required. The amendment will enter into force on **1 January 2026**.

c. **[RESOLUTION MSC.521\(106\)](#) – AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974 (CHAPTER XV)**

The resolution adopts a new chapter XV (Safety measures for ships carrying industrial personnel) to the SOLAS, 1974, as amended, to address the safe carriage of Industrial Personnel. The new SOLAS chapter XV will enter into force on **1 July 2024**.

d. **[RESOLUTION MSC.522\(106\)](#) – AMENDMENTS TO THE PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974**

The resolution adopts amendments to the appendix to the annex to the 1978 SOLAS Protocol. The existing form of the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate is replaced to account for the radio installations requirements used in life-saving appliances. The amendments will enter into force on **1 January 2026**.

e. **[RESOLUTION MSC.523\(106\)](#) – AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CODE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF SHIPS CARRYING LIQUEFIED GASES IN BULK (IGC CODE)**

The resolution adopts amendments to chapter 6 (Materials of construction and quality control) of the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (IGC Code) to confirm the acceptance on the use of high manganese austenitic steels and stipulate the testing requirements for use in cryogenic service. The amendments will enter into force on **1 January 2026**.

f. **[RESOLUTION MSC.524\(106\)](#) – AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF SAFETY FOR SHIPS USING GASES OR OTHER LOW-FLASHPOINT FUELS (IGF CODE)**

The resolution adopts amendments to chapter 7 (Material and general pipe design) of the International Code of Safety for Ships using Gases or other Low-flashpoint Fuels (IGF Code) to confirm the acceptance on the use of high manganese austenitic steels and stipulate the testing requirements for use in cryogenic service. The amendments will enter into force on **1 January 2026**.

- g. **[RESOLUTION MSC.525\(106\)](#) – AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CODE ON THE ENHANCED PROGRAMME OF INSPECTIONS DURING SURVEYS OF BULK CARRIERS AND OIL TANKERS, 2011 (2011 ESP CODE)**

The resolution adopts amendments to the International Code on the Enhanced Programme of Inspections during Surveys of Bulk Carriers and Oil Tankers, 2011 (2011 ESP Code), as part of its regular 2-yearly review and include changes to align the requirements for inspections of tanks on bulk carriers. The amendments will enter into force on **1 July 2024**.

- h. **[RESOLUTION MSC.526\(106\)](#) – AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CODE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF SHIPS CARRYING DANGEROUS CHEMICALS IN BULK (IBC CODE)**

The resolution adopts amendments to chapter 2 of the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (the IBC Code) to address inconsistencies concerning the flooding conditions for doors in watertight bulkheads. The amendments will enter into force on **1 July 2024**.

- i. **[RESOLUTION MSC.527\(106\)](#) – INTERNATIONAL CODE OF SAFETY FOR SHIPS CARRYING INDUSTRIAL PERSONNEL (IP CODE)**

The resolution adopts the new mandatory International Code of Safety for Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (IP Code) to provide the safety standards for safe carriage of industrial personnel onboard cargo ship and high-speed crafts. The IP code will enter into force on **1 July 2024**, in conjunction with the new SOLAS Chapter XV to make the provisions of the IP Code mandatory.

- j. **[RESOLUTION MSC.528\(106\)](#) – RECOMMENDED COOPERATION TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, THE RESCUE OF PERSONS IN DISTRESS AT SEA AND THE SAFE DISEMBARKATION OF SURVIVORS**

The resolution calls on all stakeholders to ensure safety of life at sea by taking duly into account the need for quick and effective cooperation in all phases of a search and rescue operation; minimizing the time survivors remain aboard the ship rendering assistance; also taking duly into account that according to international law, a search and rescue operation is not concluded until the survivors have been disembarked and delivered to a place of safety; and promoting the cooperation between coastal States and flag States of ships involved in SAR operations in accordance with the obligations of the SOLAS and SAR Conventions.

k. **RESOLUTION MSC.263(84)/REV.1 – PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LONG-RANGE IDENTIFICATION AND TRACKING OF SHIPS**

The resolution adopts the revised performance standards and functional requirements for the long-range identification and tracking of ships (LRIT) and revokes resolutions MSC.263(84), MSC.330(90) and MSC.400(95). LRIT installed on or after 1 January 2026 shall comply with Resolution MSC.263(84)/Rev.1.

l. **RESOLUTION MSC.529(106) – STATEMENT OF RECOGNITION OF MARITIME MOBILE SATELLITE SERVICES PROVIDED BY CTTIC THROUGH BDMSS**

The resolution informs that the BeiDou Message Service System (BDMSS) had conformed with all the criteria specified in the annex to resolution A.1001(25) and recognises the maritime mobile satellite services provided by China Transport Telecommunication Information Group Co. Ltd. (CTTIC), in the coverage area set out in the annex of this resolution, for use in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS).

m. **RESOLUTION MSC.530(106) – PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ELECTRONIC CHART DISPLAY AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (ECDIS)**

The resolution adopts the revised performance standards for electronic chart display and information systems (ECDIS). ECDIS equipment installed onboard Singapore registered ships shall comply with Resolution MSC.530(106) as follows:

- (a) if installed on or after 1 January 2029, conforms to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to the present resolution;
- (b) if installed on or after 1 January 2026 but before 1 January 2029, conforms either to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to the present resolution or to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to resolution MSC.232(82);
- (c) if installed on or after 1 January 2009 but before 1 January 2026, conforms to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to resolution MSC.232(82); and
- (d) if installed on or after 1 January 1996 but before 1 January 2009, conforms to performance standards not inferior to those specified in

the annex to resolution A.817(19), as amended by resolutions MSC.64(67) and MSC.86(70).

4. Queries relating to this circular should be directed to email [shipping@mpa.gov.sg](mailto:shipping@mpa.gov.sg).

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