

	MARITIME AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA SOLAS AMENDMENT-FIRE-FIGHTER'S OUTFIT & RADIOTELEPHONE APPARATUS	Circular No.	14-07-04	P
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TO:

- (I) ALL OWNERS, MASTERS OF JAMAICAN REGISTERED VESSELS
- (II) ALL MANAGERS AND OPERATORS OF JAMAICAN REGISTERED VESSELS
- (III) RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

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SUBJECT: SOLAS AMENDMENT TO FIRE-FIGHTER'S OUTFIT & RADIOTELEPHONE APPARATUS

References: SOLAS Chapter II/reg.10.10.1(replaced), SOLAS II/reg.10.10.4(new),
SOLAS Chapter II/reg.15.2.2.6(new), MSC 338(91)

Summary:

IMO adopted amendments to SOLAS 1974 on 30 November 2012 vide MSC 338(91). The amendments introduces changes and additions to SOLAS Chapter II, regulations 10.10.1, 10.10.4 and 15.2.2.6, introducing revised and new requirements to fire-fighter's outfit, breathing apparatus and portable radiotelephone apparatus.

These regulations shall enter into force from 01 July 2014.

Changes affecting SOLAS regulation II-2/10.10.1 and the FSS code.

1. Breathing Apparatus:

a. Changes to SOLAS regulation II-2/10.10.1 and the FSS code mean that: Compressed air breathing apparatus shall be fitted with an audible alarm and a visual or other device which will alert the user before the volume of the air in the cylinder has been reduced to no less than 200 litres.

-This applies to ship's constructed (keel laid) on or after 1 July 2014. Ships constructed (keel laid) before 1 July 2014 must comply no later than 1 July 2019.

b. New SOLAS regulation II-2/15.2.2.6 relating to 'On board training and drills' requires that: An on board means of recharging breathing apparatus cylinders used during drills shall be provided or a suitable number of spare cylinders shall be carried on board to replace those used.

- This applies to all ships on or after 1 July 2014.

2. Two-way portable radiotelephone apparatus:

New SOLAS regulation II-2/10.10.4 requires that: For ships constructed on or after 1 July 2014, a minimum of two two-way portable radiotelephone apparatuses for each fire party for fire-fighter's communication shall be carried on board. Those two-way portable radiotelephone apparatuses shall be of an explosion proof type or intrinsically safe.

- **Ships constructed before 1 July 2014 shall comply with the requirements of this paragraph not later than the first safety equipment survey after 1 July 2018.**

Owners and operators of Jamaican registered vessels having new and existing vessels should ensure that the firefighter's outfits on their vessels meet the requirements of SOLAS and FSS code and that any changes to fire lockers contents are reflected on the fire control plans.

IMO resolution MSC338(91) can be accessed from the [IMO website](#).

**SURVEYOR GENERAL
DIRECTORATE OF SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT AND CERTIFICATION**

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**MARITIME AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA
THE OFFICE CENTRE BUILDING
2ND FLOOR, 12 OCEAN BOULEVARD
KINGSTON, JAMAICA
TEL: (876) 967 1060-5 or 967-1087
FAX: (876) 922-5765
EMAIL: safety@jamaicaships.com
WEBSITE: <http://www.jamaicaships.com>**