



Ref. T2/6.01

AMENDMENTS TO THE MODU CODE

1 The Maritime Safety Committee at its fifty-ninth session (13 to 24 May 1991) adopted amendments to chapters 10 and 11 of the 1989 edition of the Code for the Construction and Equipment of MODUs adopted by resolution A.649(16) (annex 1) and amendments to chapters 10 and 11 of the 1979 edition of the Code adopted by resolution A.414(XI) (annex 2).

2 The Committee decided that, to maintain compatibility with SOLAS, the aforementioned amendments to resolutions A.414(XI) and A.649(16) should enter into force on 1 February 1992 and:

- .1 the amendments to resolution A.414(XI) should apply to all MODUs the keels of which were laid or were at a similar stage of construction on or after 31 December 1981 but before 1 May 1991 with:
 - .1.1 new section 10.7 - Radio life-saving appliances applying in the same way as regulation III/6.1 of the 1988 SOLAS GMDSS amendments applies to ships; and
 - .1.2 new chapter 11 - Radiocommunication installations applying in the same way as regulation IV/1 of the 1988 SOLAS GMDSS amendments applies to ships; and
- .2 the amendments to resolution A.649(16) should apply to all MODUs the keels of which were laid or were at a similar stage of construction on or after 1 May 1991 with:
 - .2.1 new section 10.13 - Radio life-saving appliances applying in the same way as regulation III/6.1 of the 1988 SOLAS GMDSS amendments applies to ships; and
 - .2.2 new chapter 11 - Radiocommunication installations applying in the same way as regulation IV/1 of the 1988 SOLAS GMDSS amendments applies to ships.

3 The Committee also recommended that Member Governments encourage the fitting of all MODUs with the GMDSS equipment specified in the amendments to the MODU Code and ensure that all MODUs comply with:

- .1 section 10.13 of the amendments to resolution A.649(16) not later than 1 February 1995;
- .2 chapter 11 of the amendments to resolution A.649(16), as applicable to their mode of operation, not later than 1 February 1999.

4 At the request of the Committee, the above amendments to chapters 10 and 11 of the 1989 and 1979 editions of the Code for the Construction and Equipment of MODUs are brought to the attention of Member Governments.

ANNEX 1AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTERS 10 AND 11 OF THE 1979 EDITION OF THE MODU CODE

CHAPTER 10 - LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES

No change, except that section "10.7 Portable radio apparatus" should be replaced as follows:

"10.7 Radio life-saving appliancesTwo-way VHF radiotelephone apparatus

10.7.1 All lifeboats should carry a two-way VHF radiotelephone apparatus. In addition, at least two such apparatus should be available on the MODU, so stowed that they can be rapidly placed in any liferaft. All two-way VHF radiotelephone apparatus should conform to performance standards not inferior to those adopted by the Organization.

Radar transponder

10.7.2 All lifeboats should carry a radar transponder. In addition, at least two radar transponders should be available on the MODU, so stowed that they can be rapidly placed in any liferaft. All radar transponders should conform to performance standards not inferior to those adopted by the Organization".

CHAPTER 11 - RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATIONS

The text of chapter 11 should be replaced by:

"11.1 Application

11.1.1 The purpose of this Chapter is to provide minimum requirements for distress and safety radiocommunications between mobile offshore drilling units and coast stations, ships and supporting aircraft in the Maritime Mobile Service.

11.1.2 The requirements are applicable to the following modes of operation of mobile offshore drilling units:

- .1 when underway self-propelled;
- .2 when towed, or self-propelled and accompanied by escort ships; and
- .3 when stationary at the site or engaged in drilling operations.

11.2 General

Coastal States in common areas of interest should, to the extent possible, establish similar radiocommunication requirements to avoid confusion in case any ancillary craft have to divert to another coastal State in an emergency.

11.3 Self-propelled units under way

Each unit, while under way at sea, should comply with the applicable provisions concerning radiocommunications for ships prescribed in chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments.*

11.4 Units when towed, or self-propelled and accompanied by escort ships

11.4.1 The requirements for non-self-propelled units under tow when manned depend upon the radio installations fitted in the towing ship, as set out in paragraphs 11.4.2 and 11.4.3.

11.4.2 In cases where the towing ship complies fully with all applicable requirements concerning radiocommunications for ships prescribed in chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments, the non-self-propelled unit under tow when manned should:

- .1 be fitted with VHF facilities as required by regulations IV/7.1.1** and 7.1.2 of the 1988 SOLAS amendments and with MF facilities as required by regulations IV/9.1.1 and 9.1.2;
- .2 be fitted with the satellite EPIRB or EPIRB required by regulation IV/7.1.6, as appropriate, for the area in which the MODU is being towed; and
- .3 be fitted with equipment for automatic reception of navigational and meteorological warnings in accordance with regulations IV/7.1.4 and IV/7.1.5, as appropriate, of the 1988 SOLAS amendments.

11.4.3 In cases where the towing ship does not comply fully with the applicable requirements concerning radiocommunications for ships prescribed in chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments, the MODU under tow when manned should comply with all the applicable provisions concerning radiocommunications prescribed in chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments.**

11.4.4 Each self-propelled unit accompanied by one or more escort vessels should comply with the provisions of 11.3.

* All requirements of chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments referring to "from the position the ship is normally navigated" should be applied as meaning "from the position the MODU is normally navigated".

** All requirements of chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments referring to "from the position the ship is normally navigated" should be applied as meaning "from a position which is continuously manned and which is controlling the MODU while under tow".

11.5 Units stationary at the site or engaged in drilling operations

11.5.1 Each unit while stationary at the site, including when engaged in drilling operations, should comply with all requirements prescribed in chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments that are applicable to a ship sailing through the same area.*

11.5.2 Taking into account the different types of accident which may occur on the MODU, additional radio equipment should be installed in a room or position, which could be the bridge or an emergency control room, situated as far as practicable from the radio equipment fitted in compliance with section 11.5.1, so that no single accident in any part of the MODU could deprive the MODU of all facilities for radiocommunications.

The additional radio equipment should comply with the following regulations of the 1988 SOLAS amendment for MODUs drilling in:

- .1 sea area A1, the equipment prescribed by regulation IV/7.1.1;
- .2 sea area A2, the equipment prescribed by regulations IV/7.1.1 and IV/9.1.1;
- .3 sea area A3, the equipment prescribed by regulations IV/7.1.1 and IV/10.1.1, plus 10.1.2; or alternatively, as required by regulations IV/7.1.1 and 10.2.1;
- .4 sea area A4, the equipment prescribed by regulations IV/7.1.1 and IV/10.2.1.

11.5.3 If the acoustic noise level in a room fitted with operating controls for radio equipment is so high or could be so high, during particular operating conditions, that it may disturb or prevent proper use of the radio equipment, then adequate noise protection should be provided by mechanical or other means, in association with the operating controls for the radio equipment.

11.6 Helicopter communications

In order to ensure communication with helicopters, MODUs serviced by helicopters should carry an aeromobile VHF radiotelephone station complying with the relevant requirements of ICAO.

11.7 Internal communications

All types of MODUs should be fitted with efficient means of communication between the control room, the bridge (if provided) and any position or positions fitted with facilities for operation of radio equipment.

* All requirements of chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments referring to "from the position at which the ship is normally navigated", should be applied as meaning "from a position (or from the positions), which is continuously manned and which is controlling the MODU while stationary at the site including its drilling operations (i.e. normally the control room)".

11.8 Performance standards

11.8.1 All radio equipment should be of a type approved by the Administration issuing the licence. Subject to section 11.8.2, such equipment should conform to appropriate performance standards not inferior to those adopted by the Organization*.

* Reference is made to the following performance standards adopted by the Organization by the resolutions indicated or to be developed by the Organization:

- .1 Narrow-band direct-printing equipment for the reception of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships (Assembly resolution A.525(13))
- .2 General requirements for shipborne radio equipment forming part of the global maritime distress and safety system and for electronic navigational aids (Assembly resolution [A...(17) (MSC 59/33, annex 16)])
- .3 Ship earth stations capable of two-way communications (Assembly resolution [A...(17) (MSC 59/33, annex 15)])
- .4 VHF radio installations capable of voice communications and digital selective calling (Assembly resolution A.609(15))
- .5 Shipborne MF radio installations capable of voice communications and digital selective calling (Assembly resolution A.610(15))
- .6 Shipborne MF/HF radio installations capable of voice communication, narrow-band direct-printing and digital selective calling (Assembly resolution A.613(15))
- .7 Float-free satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacons operating on 406 MHz (Assembly resolution [A...(17) (MSC 59/33, annex 14)])
- .8 Survival craft radar transponders for use in search and rescue operations (Assembly resolution [A...(17) (MSC 58/25, Add.1, annex 16)])
- .9 Float-free VHF emergency position-indicating radio beacons (Assembly resolution A.612(15))
- .10 INMARSAT Standard-C ship earth stations capable of transmitting and receiving direct-printing communications (Assembly resolution A.663(16))
- .11 Enhanced group call equipment (Assembly resolution A.664(16))
- .12 Float-free satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacons operating through the geostationary INMARSAT satellite system on 1.6 GHz (Assembly resolution A.661(16))
- .13 Float-free release and activation arrangements for emergency radio equipment (Assembly resolution A.662(16))

11.8.2 Equipment installed prior to 1 February 1992 may be exempted from full compliance with the appropriate performance standards at the discretion of the Administration, provided that the equipment is compatible with equipment complying with the performance standards, having due regard to the criteria which the Organization may adopt in connection with such standards.

11.9 Gas explosion danger

Any radio equipment installed in a zone as defined in section 6.1 should comply with regulation IV/14 of the 1988 SOLAS amendments.

11.10 Survey of the radio station

11.10.1 The radio station of a unit should be subject to survey as specified below:

- .1 by the Administration which issues the licence or its authorized representative before the radio station is put into service;
- .2 when the unit is moved and comes under the administrative control of another coastal State a survey may be carried out by that State or its authorized representative;
- .3 once every 12 months, carried out by an officer of the Administration and/or the coastal State or their respective authorized representative.

11.10.2 The Administration may recognize the coastal State as its authorized representative.

11.10.3 In every case when an authorized representative of the coastal State carries out an inspection, a report should be issued and kept with the radio documents, and a copy, if requested, should be forwarded to the Administration."

ANNEX 2

AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTERS 10 AND 11 OF THE 1989 EDITION OF THE MODU CODE

CHAPTER 10 - LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES

No change, except that section "10.13 Radio life-saving appliances" should be replaced as follows:

"10.13 Radio life-saving appliancesTwo-way VHF radiotelephone apparatus

10.13.1 All lifeboats should carry a two-way VHF radiotelephone apparatus. In addition, at least two such apparatus should be available on the MODU, so stowed that they can be rapidly placed in any liferaft. All two-way VHF radiotelephone apparatus should conform to performance standards not inferior to those adopted by the Organization.

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- .3 when stationary at the site or engaged in drilling operations.

11.2 General

Coastal States in common areas of interest should, to the extent possible, establish similar radiocommunication requirements to avoid confusion in case any ancillary craft have to divert to another coastal State in an emergency.

11.3 Self-propelled units under way

Each unit, while under way at sea, should comply with the applicable provisions concerning radiocommunications for ships prescribed in chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments.*

11.4 Units when towed, or self-propelled and accompanied by escort ships

11.4.1 The requirements for non-self-propelled units under tow when manned depend upon the radio installations fitted in the towing ship, as set out in paragraphs 11.4.2 and 11.4.3.

11.4.2 In cases where the towing ship complies fully with all applicable requirements concerning radiocommunications for ships prescribed in chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments, the non-self-propelled unit under tow when manned should:

- .1 be fitted with VHF facilities as required by regulations IV/7.1.1** and 7.1.2 of the 1988 SOLAS amendments and with MF facilities as required by regulations IV/9.1.1 and 9.1.2;
- .2 be fitted with the satellite EPIRB or EPIRB required by regulation IV/7.1.6, as appropriate, for the area in which the MODU is being towed; and
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11.4.4 Each self-propelled unit accompanied by one or more escort vessels should comply with the provisions of 11.3.

* All requirements of chapter IV of the 1988 SOLAS amendments referring to "from the position the ship is normally navigated" should be applied as meaning "from the position the MODU is normally navigated".

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- .3 sea area A3, the equipment prescribed by regulations IV/7.1.1 and IV/10.1.1, plus 10.1.2; or alternatively, as required by regulations IV/7.1.1 and 10.2.1;
- .4 sea area A4, the equipment prescribed by regulations IV/7.1.1 and IV/10.2.1.

11.5.3 If the acoustic noise level in a room fitted with operating controls for radio equipment is so high or could be so high, during particular operating conditions, that it may disturb or prevent proper use of the radio equipment, then adequate noise protection should be provided by mechanical or other means, in association with the operating controls for the radio equipment.

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- .3 once every 12 months, carried out by an officer of the Administration and/or the coastal State or their respective authorized representative.

11.10.2 The Administration may recognize the coastal State as its authorized representative.

11.10.3 In every case when an authorized representative of the coastal State carries out an inspection, a report should be issued and kept with the radio documents, and a copy, if requested, should be forwarded to the Administration."
