



Bundesrepublik Deutschland
BG Verkehr - Dienststelle Schiffssicherheit



Flag State Information

FI S/003/NL/2021/Rev. 00

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This document is published by the Ship Safety Division of BG Verkehr as part of the German Flag State Administration. The content is intended to provide a uniform interpretation of international and national regulations for sea-going vessels under German flag. Furthermore, additional relevant information on selected topics will be published. The Flag State Information is a document that adapts to practical experience and is therefore continuously developed. The development of new as well as the revision of already existing Flag State Information is done according to the urgency resulting from the daily handling of the corresponding regulations and topics. The period of validity results from the publication.

In any case of doubt, the German version of this FI prevails.

Unless otherwise specified below, the definitions of the FI S/-/000/2020 in the version valid at the time of completion this FI are applicable.

Types of ships:	Passenger Vessel / Cargo Vessel		
Section:	Shipbuilding		
Topic category:	National Load Line		
Topic:	Content and Details of a Closing Appliances Plan		
Interpreted rule:	Annex 1a part 7 regulation 5.1		
References:	Annex 1a part 7 Interantional Convention on Load Lines (ICLL 66/88)		
Date:	08.02.2021	Application from:	08.02.2021

Introduction

On 01.10.2015 the national German freeboard regulations came into force, which can currently be found in part 7 of annex 1a. They apply to ships that are not subject to the regulations of the International Convention on Load Lines established by the IMO.

Regulation 5.1 stipulates that a Closing Appliances Plan must exist for each ship. Since in the past, various plans were submitted to DS (Ship Safety Division) which did not meet the

requirements for technical drawings in general and for Closing Appliances Plans in particular, this FI sets out minimum requirements for these plans.

Original text of regulation

5. Minimum freeboard and load line mark

5.1 For all vessels, effective weathertight integrity is a precondition for the assignment of the load line. The weathertight integrity and the compliance with the regulations of this part must be documented in a closing appliances plan.

Interpretation

The Closing Appliances Plan is the depiction of the relevant openings and their position on or in the ship. The general arrangement plan can be used as the basis for the Closing Appliances Plan (freeboard plan). The positions of the individual openings are to be provided with item numbers (item No.). In addition, depending on the type of opening, the following details must be assigned to the item numbers in a table.

Doors: Item No., size of the clear opening, coaming height above the deck, material and thickness, number of turnbuckles and hinges, degree of closure (see below), if a window or porthole is installed, relevant additional information must be provided (see windows/portholes)

Windows and portholes: Item No., clear size of the window pane, fixed or hinged window pane, material of the frame, material and thickness of the window pane, material of the deadlight (if installed), distance from the lower edge of the windows to the deck or from the lower edge of the portholes to the design waterline (if the portholes are installed in the shell at the ship's side)

Hatches: Item No., coaming height above deck, dimensions of opening, material and thickness of the cover as well as of the gasket, total number of locking mechanisms (turnbuckles, basket nuts, screws, etc.) and hinges, degree of closure (see below)

Ventilators (rooms): Item No., coaming height above deck, dimensions of opening, material and thickness of the material of the cover and gasket, total number of locking mechanisms (turnbuckles, basket nuts, screws, etc.) and hinges, closing appliance (e.g. cover, ventilator head), information on which room is ventilated

Air pipes (tanks): Item No., overflow height above deck, diameter, material and thickness of the material, closing appliance (type of air pipe head), information on which tank is ventilated

Scuppers, inlets and outlets of the hull: Item No., diameter, wall thickness of the pipe, material, closing appliance (e.g. non-return valve, valve) if installed, from which room

Guard rails: Arrangement of guard rails and rail stanchions, total height of the guard rail, distance between the single courses, the rail stanchions and their substructures are to be shown in detailed drawings (if necessary)

Freeing ports: Arrangement of the freeing ports, length and height of the clear openings (if necessary in detailed drawings), the required minimum freeing port area for each side according to the International Convention on Load Lines (ILLC 66/88 Regulation 24), the achieved the achieved freeing port area for each side

The **degree of closure** depends essentially on the nature of the sealing system. In principle, a distinction is made between "watertight", "weathertight" and "not weathertight". For guidance on specifying the degree within the closing appliances plan, FI S/006/SC/2021/Rev. 00 shall be followed in this respect.

In addition to the information on the state of closure, at least the following information must be indicated/shown on the drawing:

- frame bar
- frame spacing
- position of base line
- height of each deck above base line
- draught from base line up to design waterline
- moulded depth
- moulded breadth
- a specified length of the vessel (e.g. length between perpendiculars)
- current name of the vessel
- IMO number (if assigned),
- scale bar

Additional Information

For vessels made of wood, the indication of the width shall refer to the outer edge of the planking and the indication of the depth, the length and the draught shall refer to the rabbet.

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