



Ref. T1/11.01

MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.5
3 August 2009

UNIFIED INTERPRETATION ON MEASUREMENT OF DISTANCES

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-fifth session (26 November to 5 December 2008), and the Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its fifty-ninth session (13 to 17 July 2009), approved a unified interpretation on measurement of distances, set out in the annex, with a view to harmonizing the measurement of distances stipulated in several mandatory instruments.

2 Member Governments are invited to use the interpretation when applying the relevant requirements of the SOLAS, Load Lines and MARPOL Conventions, unless explicitly stipulated otherwise in those instruments, and to bring it to the attention of all parties concerned.

ANNEX

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1 The SOLAS, Load Lines and MARPOL Conventions as well as instruments mandatory under those Conventions (e.g., the IBC Code and the IGC Code) require distances to be measured such as tank length, height, width, ship (or subdivision or waterline) length, etc.

2 Unless explicitly stipulated otherwise in the requirements of the SOLAS, Load Lines and MARPOL Conventions and instruments mandatory under those Conventions, distances should be measured by using moulded dimensions.
