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MSC.1/Circ.1618
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UNIFIED INTERPRETATIONS OF SOLAS CHAPTER III

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its 101st session (5 to 14 June 2019), with a view to providing more specific guidance on SOLAS regulations III/20.11, III/22.1.1 and III/32.1.1, approved unified interpretations of SOLAS chapter III, prepared by the Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment, at its sixth session, as set out in the annex.

2 Member States are invited to use the annexed unified interpretations as guidance when applying SOLAS regulations III/20.11, III/22.1.1 and III/32.1.1, and to bring them to the attention of all parties concerned.

ANNEX

UNIFIED INTERPRETATIONS OF SOLAS CHAPTER III

Regulation 20.11 – Operational readiness, maintenance and inspections, maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats, rescue boats and fast rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear

The thorough examinations, overhauls and operational tests, carried out at intervals of at least once every five years, should be done in the presence of a surveyor.

Regulation 22.1.1 – Personal life saving appliances, lifebuoys

Regulation 32.1.1 – Personal life saving appliances, lifebuoys

When considering the minimum number and distribution of lifebuoys as required by regulations 22.1.1 or 32.1.1, as applicable, a lifebuoy, fitted with both a light and a lifeline as per MSC.1/Circular.1331 for compliance with SOLAS regulation II-1/3-9.2, should not be taken into account.
