



## SHIP-SAFETY-DIVISION International Safety Management (ISM)

**ISM-Circular 06-2009**  
Date: 17.09.2009

contact person:  
**Capt. Tilo Berger**  
**Telephone:** 040/361 37 – 213  
**Telefax:** 040/361 37 – 295  
**eMail:** [ism@see-bg.de](mailto:ism@see-bg.de)

---

**To:** All ship owners, ship operators and designated persons  
of German ships

**Subject:** Emergency towing procedures on ships according to SOLAS Reg. II-  
1/3-4 (MSC.256(84))

**Application:** Passenger ships and cargo ships on international voyages

**ISM-Code:** 1.2.3 + 8

**Remark:** This circular has not to be carried on board of ships

This circular provides information about amendments to SOLAS Reg. II-1/3-4 adopted by Resolution MSC.256(84) coming into force on 1 January 2010.

### *Regulation 3-4 Emergency towing arrangements and procedures*

*1. Emergency towing arrangements on tankers (this paragraph remains unchanged)*

*2. Emergency towing procedures on ships (new paragraph)*

*2.1 This paragraph applies to:*

- .1 all passenger ships, not later than 1 January 2010;*
- .2 cargo ships constructed on or after 1 January 2010; and*
- .3 cargo ships constructed before 1 January 2010, not later than 1 January 2012.*

*2.2 Ships shall be provided with a ship-specific emergency towing procedure. Such a procedure shall be carried aboard the ship for use in emergency situations and shall be based on existing arrangements and equipment available on board the ship.*

2.3 *The procedure shall include:*

- .1 drawings of fore and aft deck showing possible emergency towing arrangements;*
- .2 inventory of equipment on board that can be used for emergency towing;*
- .3 means and methods of communication; and*
- .4 sample procedures to facilitate the preparation for and conducting of emergency towing operations.”*

Companies concerned are requested to prepare ship-specific emergency towing procedures for ships subject to SOLAS regulation II-1/3-4. The procedures should be considered as part of the emergency preparedness required by element 8 of the ISM-Code.

For this purpose please take note of the MSC.1/Circ.1255 *Guidelines for owners/operators on preparing emergency towing procedures* that provides assistance.

The company should ensure that the crew is familiarized with emergency towing procedures and trained in this respect during the regular safety drills and trainings.

Copies of this circular and MSC.1/Circ.1255 are available on our website

<http://www.see-bg.de/schiffssicherheit/isme/#ism>

Ship-Safety-Division