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## 108th session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 108)

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### Purpose:

Notice to our surveyors, auditors, and interested parties about resolutions during the MSC 108

**Reference:** 108th session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 108)

**Source:** [https://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/MeetingSummaries/Pages/PREVIEW-MSC108.aspx#:~:text=The%20Maritime%20Safety%20Committee%20\(MSC\)%20will%20meet%20in%20person%20for,within%20the%20scope%20of%20IMO.](https://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/MeetingSummaries/Pages/PREVIEW-MSC108.aspx#:~:text=The%20Maritime%20Safety%20Committee%20(MSC)%20will%20meet%20in%20person%20for,within%20the%20scope%20of%20IMO.)

### Notice

From 15 to 24 May 2024, the 108th session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization was held. During MSC 108, the following amendments to the following Conventions and Codes were adopted, which are due to come into force on 1 January 2026.

#### SOLAS Chapter II-2:

- Part B, Regulation 4: Probability of ignition.
- Part C: Suppression of fire.



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- Part G, Regulation 20: Protection of vehicle, special category, and ro-ro spaces.

### SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 31:

- Danger Message and notification of lost or sighted containers under SOLAS Chapter V.
- International Code of Safety for Ships Using Gases or Other Low-flashpoint Fuels (IGF Code).

### International Code for the Safe Carriage of Grain in Bulk (**Grain Code**).

### International Code on the Enhanced Programme of Inspections during Surveys of Bulk Carriers and Oil Tankers, 2011 (**2011 ESP Code**).

### International Life-Saving Appliance Code (LSA Code):

- New criteria were incorporated for the approval of SOLAS lifejackets, as well as the single hook and lowering systems in survival craft, including aspects concerning the lowering speed during the launch into water.

### International Code for Fire Safety Systems (FSS Code), Chapters 7 and 9:

- New provisions will include fixed water-based fire-extinguishing systems on ro-ro passenger ships with weather decks intended for vehicle carriage, as well as new criteria for testing applicable to heat detection.

### Enhancements:

- Amendments to SOLAS Chapter II-1/3-4 concerning emergency towing arrangements and procedures.
- These amendments apply to all new ships, excluding tankers, with a gross tonnage over 20,000, that are constructed on or after 1 January 2028.
- These amendments will come into force on 1 January 2028.
- Guidelines updating on on maritime cyber risk management.
- Unified Interpretations of SOLAS and mandatory Codes.

### Approvals:

- Draft amendments to the IGF and IGC Codes, set for adoption at MSC 109.

Another significant aspect of MSC 108 is the development of a regulatory framework for safety that facilitates the reduction of greenhouse gases using alternative fuels and new technologies, and the ongoing development of a Code for maritime autonomous ships (MASS), targeting completion in 2025.