

Checklist for Maintenance and Inspection of Safety Equipment

With this overview of recommendations for maintenance and inspection requirements and recommendations for safety equipment, Germanischer Lloyd provides a compact and practical tool for ship owners, operators and surveyors. New maintenance requirements for such equipment are published irregularly and in various IMO documents and chapters, which makes it cumbersome and time consuming to keep track of all changes. This list contains all requirements regarding safety equipment and includes also requirements and recommendations by Germanischer Lloyd. National requirements, if any, should be observed in addition.

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Please note: National requirements of relevant flag-states for maintenance and inspection are available via the flag state names in this section.

1. Life Saving Appliances

	SOLAS Reg. + other Instruments	Application		Record			Frequency / Interval		
		Cargo Ships	Passenger Ships	Log Book Entry	Service Company ¹	Ship's Crew	SOLAS Requirement	GL	
								Requirement	Recommendation
Means of embarkation on and disembarkation from ships	II-1, Reg. 3-9.3 III/20.7.2 MSC/Circ. 1331, 4.6	X	X	X		X	monthly		
Survival craft, rescue boats and launching appliances (visual inspection)	III/20.6.1, MSC/Circ. 1206	X	X	X		X	weekly		
Test run of life- and rescue boat engines	III/20.6.2, MSC/Circ. 1206	X	X	X		X	weekly		
Davit launched lifeboats	Moved from stowed position	X		X		X	weekly		
	Turned out from stowed position	X	X	X		X	monthly		
Testing of public address and general alarm system	III/20.6.4	X	X	X		X	weekly		
Testing of emergency lighting	III/19.3.3.9		X	X		X	weekly (Passenger Vessel)		
		X		X		X	monthly (Cargo Vessel)		

		SOLAS Reg. + other Instruments	Application		Record Log Book Entry			Frequency / Interval		
			Cargo Ships	Passenger Ships		Service Company	Ship's Crew	SOLAS Requirement	GL	
									Requirement	Recommendation
Immersion suits	Shipboard inspection by crew	III/20.7, MSC/Circ.1047	X	X			X	monthly		
	Air pressure test (seams and closures)	MSC/Circ. 1114	X	X		X	(X)	3 yearly (guideline only)		yearly (for suits older than 10 years)
Inflatable liferafts, lifejackets, MES (by approved service station)		III/20.8.1.1	X	X		X		12 months (administration can allow extension up to 17 months)		
MES: deployment on rotational basis		III/20.8.2	X	X		X		at least 6 yearly (intervals to be agreed by the administration)		
Hydrostatic release units (non-disposable)		III/20.9.1	X	X		X		12 months (administration can allow extension up to 17 months)		
Maintenance of falls used in launching:		III/20.4, MSC216(82)	X	X	X	X	(X)	periodic inspections; special concern to hidden areas; Renewal latest after 5 years	Ships crew only if properly trained and familiar with these works	

	SOLAS Reg. + other Instruments	Application		Record			Frequency / Interval		
		Cargo Ships	Passenger Ships	Log Book Entry	Service Company	Ship's Crew	SOLAS Requirement	GL	
								Requirement	Recommendation
Launching appliances (thorough examination and dynamic test of the winch brake)	III/20/11.1, MSC.152(78) LSA Code 6.1.2.5.2 MSC/Circ. 1206	X	X	X	X		yearly		
Lifeboat on-load release gear (thorough examination and test by properly trained personnel)	III/20.11.2.2 MSC/Circ. 1206	X	X	X	X		yearly		
Lifeboat on-load release gear (overhauling + load test)	III/20.11.2.3	X	X	X	X		5 yearly		
Compressed air cylinders for lifeboats with selfcontained air support system (external inspection)	--	X				X	--		yearly
Compressed air cylinders for lifeboats with selfcontained air support system (hydrostatic testing)	IACS REC.No.88	X			X		--		5 yearly
Compressed air cylinder in liferaft container (hydrostatic testing)	--	X	X		X		--		10 yearly

	SOLAS Reg. + other Instruments	Application		Record			Frequency / Interval		
		Cargo Ships	Passenger Ships	Log Book Entry	Service Company	Ship's Crew	SOLAS Requirement	GL	
								Requirement	Recommendation
Rocket parachute flares	III/6.3 LSA Code 1.2.3, 3.1	X	X			X	Makers expiry date		3 yearly
Smoke signals	III/7.1.3 LSA Code 1.2.3, 3.3	X	X			X	Makers expiry date		3 yearly
Lifebuoy lights (electric type) - battery replacement	III/7.1.3 LSA Code 1.2.3, 2.1.2	X	X			X	Makers expiry date		1 yearly
Food rations of lifeboat equipment	LSA Code 4.4.8.12	X	X			X	Makers expiry date		5 yearly
First-aid outfit of lifeboat equipment	III/41.8.20 LSA Code 4.4.8.20	X	X			X	Makers expiry date		1 yearly

2. Fire Fighting Equipment

	SOLAS Reg. + other Instruments	Application		Record			Frequency / Interval			
		Cargo Ships	Passenger Ships		Log Book Entry	Service Company	Ship's Crew	SOLAS Requirement	GL	
									Requirement	Recommendation
SCBA cylinders (Check for leakages) Hydrostatic test	II-2/10.10.2.5, 19.3.6.2;	X	X	X		X	Weekly			
	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X	X		5 yearly			
Fireman's/Fire-fighter's outfits, fire extinguishers, fire hydrants, hoses and nozzles in place, properly arranged and in proper condition	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	monthly			
Fixed fire fighting stop valves in proper open or closed position	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	monthly			
Check appropriate pressure of wet pipe sprinkler systems indicated by gauges	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	monthly			
Correct levels of water of sprinkler system pressure tanks indicated by glass gauges	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	monthly			
Sprinkler system pumps operate automatically on reduction of pressure	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	monthly			
Check operation of fire pumps	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	monthly			
Function test of all automatic alarms for sprinkler systems by using test valves for each section	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	quarterly			
Check condition of international shore connection	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	quarterly			

		SOLAS Reg. + other Instruments	Application		Record			Frequency / Interval		
			Cargo Ships	Passenger Ships	Log Book Entry	Service Company	Ship's Crew	SOLAS Requirement	GL	
									Requirement	Recommendation
Test of fire doors and fire dampers	for local operation	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	quarterly		
	for remote operation	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	yearly		
Portable fire extinguishers and mobile fire extinguishers – check for proper location, charging pressure and condition		II-2/10.3; MSC/Circ. 850 IMO Res.A.951(23) ⁽¹⁾	X	X	X		X ⁽²⁾	yearly	yearly	
Fixed CO ₂ fire-extinguishing systems – maintenance and inspection by crew		MSC.1/Circ.1318	X	X			X	monthly ⁽³⁾		
			X	X			X	yearly ⁽³⁾		
				X			X	2-yearly ⁽³⁾		
			X				X	5-yearly ⁽³⁾		
Fixed fire-extinguishing systems, such as gas-, foam-, powder-, water spray or water mist - Inspection		II-2/10.4; FSS Code (IMO Res. MSC. 98(73))	X	X			X	--	2 yearly	
Foam-water and water-spray fixed fire-fighting systems - operation test		MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	yearly		
Test of fire detection system for proper operation		II-2/7.3.2; MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	yearly	yearly	
CO ₂ and halon cylinders of fixed gas fire extinguishing systems - level check		II-2/14; MSC/Circ. 850	X	X			X	--	2 yearly	

⁽¹⁾ for portable fire extinguisher

⁽²⁾ service to be undertaken by, or under the supervision of, a person with demonstrable competence

⁽³⁾ Scope of inspection according to Annex of MSC.1/Circ.1318

	SOLAS Reg. + other Instruments	Application		Record			Frequency / Interval		
		Cargo Ships	Passenger Ships	Log Book Entry	Service Company	Ship's Crew	SOLAS Requirement	GL	
								Requirement	Recommendation
Fire hoses – hydrostatic test	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	yearly		
Flow test of fire pumps incl. sprinkler pumps for proper pressure and flow	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	yearly		
Operation test of all hydrants	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	yearly		
Operation test of sprinkler system connections from the ship's fire main	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	yearly		
Check of breathing apparatus air recharging systems for air quality	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X	X		yearly		
Blow air through the piping of extinguishing gas systems	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X	X		X	yearly		
Control valves of fixed fire-fighting systems – internal inspection	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X		X		5-yearly		
SCBA cylinders – hydrostatic testing	MSC/Circ. 850	X	X		X		5-yearly		
EEBD Emergency Escape Breathing Device	MSC/Circ. 849, FSS Code	X	X				Maintenance according to makers instructions		
EEBD cylinders – hydrostatic testing	Class rules	X	X		X			5 yearly *)	

*) only, if no shorter intervalls required acc. to makers instructions

	SOLAS Reg. + other Instruments	Application		Record			Frequency / Interval		
		Cargo Ships	Passenger Ships	Log Book Entry	Service Company	Ship's Crew	SOLAS Requirement	GL	
								Requirement	Recommendation
Foam concentrate for fixed foam fire extinguishing systems	II-2/14; MSC/Circ. 850; MSC/Circ. 670	X	X		X		3 years after filling and yearly thereafter		
Foam concentrate for portable foam applicator units	Class rules (1)(4)	X	X		X		---	5-yearly (renewal)	
CO ₂ or other gas cylinders (hydrostatic pressure test and internal inspection) ¹	Class rules (1)(2)	X	X		X		--	10 yearly (at least 10 %)	
Fire extinguishers and associates propellant gas cylinders - hydrostatic pressure test	MSC/Circ. 847 IMO Res.A.951(23)	X	X		X		10 yearly		
CO ₂ hose assemblies - visual check	Class rules (1)(3)	X	X		X			2 yearly	
CO ₂ hose assemblies made of synthetic rubber to be replaced	Class rules (1)(3)	X	X		X			10 yearly	

- (1) I Ship Technology
- 0 Classification and Surveys
- (2) Item B.1.5.5.3
- (3) Item C.1.3.3.10.1
- (4) Item C.1.1.4

¹ except halon cylinders

3. Radio Equipment

	SOLAS Reg. + other Instruments	Application		Record			Frequency / Interval			
		Cargo Ships	Passenger Ships		Log Book Entry	Service Company	Ship's Crew	SOLAS Requirement	GL	
									Requirement	Recommendation
Satellite EPIRBs	IV/15.9	X	X	X ⁽¹⁾	X		5-yearly by approved shore-based maintenance facility			
	IV/15.9	X	X		X		yearly by approved service supplier			
Radio Battery	IV/13.6.2	X	X	X	X		yearly by approved service supplier			

4. Navigational Equipment

Voyage Data Recorder (VDR)	V/18.8	X	X	X ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	X		yearly by testing facility		
Steering gear	V/26	X	X	X		X	12 hours before departure		

⁽¹⁾ Certificate of Compliance

⁽²⁾ Maintenance report

5. Others

	SOLAS Reg. + other Instruments	Application		Record			Frequency / Interval		
		Cargo Ships	Passenger Ships	Log Book Entry	Service Company	Ship's Crew	SOLAS Requirement	GL	
								Requirement	Recommendation
Measurement of Low Location Lighting systems	ISO 15370, II-2/13.3.2.5		X		X		5-yearly by approved service supplier		
Lightweight survey	II-1/22.3		X		X		5-yearly		
In Service Inclining Test system	Class rules	X			X		--	5-yearly	
Medical Oxygen cylinders – hydraulic pressure test	--	X	X		X		--	10-yearly	

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