



**REPUBLIC OF
THE MARSHALL ISLANDS**
MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice

No. 7-043-1

Rev. 5/15

**TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF
MERCHANT SHIPS, AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

SUBJECT: Means of Ship Embarkation/Disembarkation

- References:**
- (a) International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), Consolidated Edition 2014, as amended
 - (b) IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1331, *Guidelines for Construction, Installation, Maintenance, and Inspection/Survey of Means of Embarkation and Disembarkation*, dated 11 June 2009
 - (c) RMI Maritime Regulations ([MI-108](#)), paragraph 7.41.13
 - (d) RMI Marine Notice [5-034-1](#), *Safety Inspections of Marshall Islands Ships*
 - (e) ISO 799:2004 *Ships and marine technology – pilot ladders*
 - (f) ISO 5488:1979, *Shipbuilding-accommodation ladders*
 - (g) ISO 7061:1993, *Shipbuilding-Aluminum shore gangways for seagoing vessel*
 - (h) ISO 7364:1983, *Shipbuilding and marine structures-deck machinery-accommodation ladder winches*
 - (i) RMI Technical Circular [16](#), *Means of Ship Embarkation/Disembarkation and Pilot Transfer Arrangements*

PURPOSE:

SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-9 entered into force on 1 January 2010. It establishes construction, installation, maintenance, and inspection requirements for the means of embarkation on and disembarkation from ships for use in port and port-related operations. This Notice implements the requirements of this regulation.

This Notice supersedes Rev. 11/12 and reflects the updating of the references and sections 1.1, 2.3 and 5.1.

APPLICABILITY:

This Notice applies to all vessels registered in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) that are equipped with onboard accommodation ladders and gangways.

REQUIREMENTS:

1.0 Masters/Owners and Operators

- 1.1 Masters shall take particular notice of the construction, maintenance and inspection requirements for the means of embarkation/disembarkation and assure that all components are included in the vessel's accident prevention protocol (see RMI Maritime Regulations, [MI-108](#), paragraph 7.41.13) and make certain they are applied, as appropriate, on their ships.

2.0 Ships Constructed (having keel laid) On or After 1 January 2010, "New Ships"

- 2.1 New Ships shall be provided with means of embarkation and disembarkation (e.g., gangways and accommodation ladders) for use in port and in port related operations that are constructed and installed based on the guidelines in IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ. [1331](#).
- 2.2 The means of embarkation and disembarkation must meet applicable international standards such as ISO 799:2004 *Ships and marine technology – pilot ladders*; ISO 5488:1979, *Shipbuilding-accommodation ladders*; ISO 7061:1993, *Shipbuilding-Aluminum shore gangways for seagoing vessel* and ISO 7364:1983, *Shipbuilding and marine structures-deck machinery-accommodation ladder winches*.
- 2.3 It is important to note that, for certain ships, two (2) accommodation ladders may be required on each side of the ship: i.e., one (1) for use in port (SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-9), located in an area where cargo or other suspended solids may not pass overhead; and one (1) in the midship parallel part of the ship, to be used in conjunction with the pilot ladder (i.e., combination arrangement) whenever the distance from the surface of the water to the point of access to the ship is more than 9 m.

3.0 Ships Constructed Before 1 January 2010, "Existing Ships"

- 3.1 Means of embarkation/disembarkation which are replaced after 1 January 2010 on Existing Ships, shall, in so far as is reasonable and practicable, comply with the requirements for New Ships as outlined in §2.0, above.

4.0 All Ships

- 4.1 All wires used to support the means of embarkation and disembarkation shall be maintained in accordance with SOLAS Regulation III/20.4.
- 4.2 The means of embarkation and disembarkation shall be maintained in suitable condition for their intended purpose, taking into account any restrictions related to safe loading. Maintenance shall be performed in accordance with MSC.1/Circ. [1331](#) and, in particular, paragraph 4 of that Circular.

5.0 Inspections/Surveys

- 5.1 The means of embarkation and disembarkation on all ships shall be inspected pursuant to SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-9. These inspections shall be conducted at the initial installation survey, the annual survey, and at every renewal survey. Operational tests shall be conducted at the initial installation survey and at every renewal survey.
- 5.2 Inspections and tests shall be conducted by a Recognized Organization (see RMI Technical Circular [16](#)). RMI Nautical Inspectors have the authority to inspect the means of embarkation and disembarkation in accordance with RMI Marine Notice [5-034-1](#).