



SOLAS DRILLS REFERENCES

Regulation 21 - Periodical Operation and Inspection of Watertight Doors, etc. in Passenger Ships

1 Drills for the operating of watertight doors, sidescuttles, valves and closing mechanisms of scuppers, ash-chutes and rubbish-chutes shall take place weekly. In ships in which the voyage exceeds one week in duration a complete drill shall be held before leaving port, and others thereafter at least once a week during the voyage.

2 All watertight doors, both hinged and power operated, in watertight bulkheads, in use at sea, shall be operated daily.

Regulation 15 - Instructions, On-Board Training and Drills

2 General requirements

2.2 On-board training and drills

2.2.4 On-board training in the use of the ship's fire-extinguishing systems and appliances shall be planned and conducted in accordance with the provisions of regulation III/19.4.1.

2.2.5 Fire drills shall be conducted and recorded in accordance with the provisions of regulations III/19.3 and III/19.5.

3 Additional requirements for passenger ships

3.1 Fire drills

In addition to the requirement of paragraph 2.2.3, fire drills shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of regulation III/30, having due regard to notification of passengers and movement of passengers to assembly stations and embarkation decks.



Regulation 19 - Emergency Training and Drills

2 Familiarity with safety installations and practice musters

2.1 Every crew member with assigned emergency duties shall be familiar with these duties before the voyage begins.

2.2 On a ship engaged on a voyage where **passengers** are scheduled to be on board for more than 24 h, musters of **newly-embarked passengers** **shall take place prior to or immediately upon departure**. Passengers shall be instructed in the use of the lifejackets and the action to take in an emergency.

2.3 Whenever **new passengers embark**, a passenger safety briefing **shall be given immediately before departure, or immediately after departure**. The briefing shall include the instructions required by **regulations 8.2 and 8.4**, and shall be made by means of an announcement, in one or more languages likely to be understood by the passengers. The announcement shall be made on the ship's public address system, or by other equivalent means likely to be heard at least by the passengers who have not yet heard it during the voyage. The briefing may be included in the muster required by paragraph 2.2. Information cards or posters or video programmes displayed on ships video displays may be used to supplement the briefing, but may not be used to replace the announcement.

3 Drills

3.2 Every crew member shall participate in **at least one abandon ship drill and one fire drill every month**. The drills of the crew **shall take place within 24 h of the ship leaving a port if more than 25% of the crew have not participated in abandon ship and fire drills on board that particular ship in the previous month**. When a ship enters service for the first time, **after modification of a major character or when a new crew is engaged**, these **drills shall be held before sailing**. The Administration may accept other arrangements that are at least equivalent for those classes of ships for which this is impracticable.

3.3 Crew members with enclosed space entry or rescue responsibilities shall participate in an **enclosed space entry and rescue drill** to be held on board the ship **at least once every two months**.



3.4.3 Except as provided in paragraphs 3.4.4 and 3.4.5, each lifeboat shall be launched, and manoeuvred in the water by its assigned operating crew, **at least once every three months during an abandon ship drill.**

3.4.4 In the case of a lifeboat arranged for **free-fall** launching, **at least once every three months** during an abandon ship drill the **crew shall board the lifeboat**, properly secure themselves in their seats and commence launch procedures up to **but not including the actual release of the lifeboat** (i.e., the release hook shall not be released). The lifeboat shall then **either be free-fall launched with only the required operating crew on board**, or **lowered into the water by means of the secondary means of launching with or without the operating crew on board**. In both cases the lifeboat shall thereafter **be manoeuvred in the water by the operating crew**. **At intervals of not more than six months**, the lifeboat **shall either be launched by free-fall** with only the operating crew on board, **or simulated launching** shall be carried out in accordance with the guidelines developed by the Organization*.

3.4.5 The Administration may allow ships operating on short international voyages not to **launch the lifeboats** on one side if their berthing arrangements in port and **their trading patterns** **do not permit launching of lifeboats on that side**. However, all such lifeboats shall be lowered **at least once every three months and launched at least annually**.

3.4.6 As far as is reasonable and practicable, **rescue boats other than lifeboats** which are also rescue boats, **shall be launched each month with their assigned crew aboard and manoeuvred in the water**. **In all cases** this requirement shall be complied with **at least once every three months**.

3.4.8 If a ship is fitted with marine evacuation systems, drills shall include exercising of the procedures required for the deployment of such a system up to the point immediately preceding actual deployment of the system. This aspect of drills should be augmented by regular instruction using the on-board training aids required by **regulation 35.4**. Additionally every system party member shall, as far as practicable, be further trained by participation in a full deployment of a similar system into water, either on board a ship or ashore, **at intervals of not longer than two years**, but in no case longer than three years. This training can be associated with the deployments required by **regulation 20.8.2**.

4 On-board training and instructions



4.1 On-board training in the use of the ship's life-saving appliances, including survival craft equipment, and in the use of the ship's fire-extinguishing appliances shall be given **as soon as possible but not later than two weeks after a crew member joins the ship**. However, if the crew member is on a regularly scheduled rotating assignment to the ship, such training shall be given **not later than two weeks after the time of first joining the ship**. Instructions in the use of the ship's fire-extinguishing appliances, life-saving appliances, and in survival at sea shall be given **at the same interval as the drills**. Individual instruction may cover different parts of the ship's life-saving and fire-extinguishing appliances, but all the ship's life-saving and fire-extinguishing appliances **shall be covered within any period of two months**.

4.3 On-board training in the use of **davit-launched liferafts** shall take place at intervals of **not more than four months on every ship fitted with such appliances**. Whenever practicable this shall include the inflation and lowering of a liferaft. This liferaft may be a special liferaft intended for training purposes only, which is not part of the ship's life-saving equipment; such a special liferaft shall be conspicuously marked.

5 Records

The date when musters are held, details of abandon ship drills and fire drills, enclosed space entry and rescue drills, drills of other life-saving appliances and on board training shall be recorded in such log-book as may be prescribed by the Administration. If a full muster, drill or training session is not held at the appointed time, an entry shall be made in the log-book stating the circumstances and the extent of the muster, drill or training session held.

Regulation 30 - Drills

1 This regulation applies to all passenger ships.

2 On passenger ships, an **abandon ship drill and fire drill shall take place weekly**. The entire crew need not be involved in every drill, but **each crew member must participate** in an **abandon ship drill and a fire drill each month as required in regulation 19.3.2**. Passengers shall be strongly encouraged to attend these drills.



Regulation 26 - Steering Gear: Testing and Drills

1 **Within 12 hours before departure**, the ship's **steering gear shall be checked and tested** by the ship's crew...

4 In addition to the routine checks and tests prescribed in paragraphs 1 and 2, **emergency steering drills** shall take place **at least once every three months** in order to practise emergency steering procedures. These drills shall include direct control within the steering gear compartment, the communications procedure with the navigation bridge and, where applicable, the operation of alternative power supplies.

5 The Administration may waive the requirements to carry out the checks and tests prescribed in paragraphs 1 and 2 for **ships which regularly engage on voyages of short duration**. Such ships shall carry out these checks and tests **at least once every week**.

ISPS code 13 - Drills and exercises

13.6 To ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of the ship security plan, **drills should be conducted at least once every three months**. In addition, in cases where **more than 25 percent of the ship's personnel has been changed**, at any one time, with personnel that has not previously participated in any drill on that ship, within the last 3 months, a drill should be conducted **within one week of the change**. These drills should test individual elements of the plan such as those security threats listed in paragraph 8.9.

13.7 **Various types of exercises which may include participation of company security officers, port facility security officers, relevant authorities of Contracting Governments as well as ship security officers**, if available, **should be carried out at least once each calendar year with no more than 18 months between the exercises**. These exercises should test communications, coordination, resource availability, and response. These exercises may be:

- .1 full scale or live;
- .2 tabletop simulation or seminar; or
- .3 combined with other exercises held such as search and rescue or emergency response exercises.

13.8 Company participation in an exercise with another Contracting Government should be recognized by the Administration.