



№ 11/CIRC/FSI

2021 / 06 / 11

To: All Owners, Managers and Representatives of Ships flying  
Georgia Flag, Masters and Officers, Recognized Organizations,  
Flag State Inspectors, Recognized Agents

**Subject : Pilot Transfer Arrangements**

**Reference:**

- **International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), as amended;**
- **IMO Assembly Resolution A.1045(27), Pilot Transfer Arrangements, adopted 20 December 2011;**
- **IMO Assembly Resolution A.1108(29), adopted on 14 December 2015;**
- **IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1428, Pilot Transfer Arrangements - Required boarding arrangements for pilots, issued 28 May 2012;**
- **IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1495/Rev.1, Unified Interpretation of SOLAS Regulation V/23.3.3, issued 25 November 2016;**
- **IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1375/Rev.1, Unified Interpretation of SOLAS Regulation V/23, issued 28 May 2012;**
- **IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1290, Unified Interpretation of the Term "First Survey" Referred to in SOLAS Regulations, issued 16 December 2008;**
- **Maritime Code of Georgia;**

**1. Purpose:**

1.1 The purpose of this Circular is to ensure that pilot transfer arrangements conform to standards at least equal with the requirements of IMO resolution A.1045(27), as amended.

**2. Introduction:**

2.2 All arrangements used for pilot transfer shall efficiently fulfil their purpose of enabling pilots to embark and disembark safely. The appliances shall be kept clean, properly maintained and stowed and shall be regularly inspected to ensure that they are safe to use. They shall be used solely for the embarkation and disembarkation of personnel.

**3. Application:**

3.1 This Circular applies to all Georgia flagged vessels, that are using pilotage services when entering or leaving port, or wherever pilotage is mandatory.

**4. Application dates:**

4.1 In accordance with Regulation V/23, of the Chapter V, of the SOLAS Convention and IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1375/Rev.1 provides a unified interpretation for the installation date of the pilot transfer equipment and arrangements.

- for ships for which the building contract is placed on or after 1 July 2012, or in the absence of the contract, constructed on or after 1 July 2012, "installed on or after 1 July 2012" means any installation on the ship; and
- for ships other than those ships prescribed in .1 above, "installed on or after 1 July 2012" means a contractual delivery date for the system, in its entirety or for individual components of the system, as relevant, to the ship on or after 1 July 2012 or, in the absence of a contractual delivery date, the actual delivery of the system, in its entirety or for individual components, to the ship on or after 1 July 2012. This does not apply to equipment and arrangements covered by paragraph 1.4 of regulation V/23.

4.2 Equipment and arrangements for pilot transfer, which are provided on ships before 01 July 2012 shall at least comply with the requirements of SOLAS Regulation V/23, as, may be in force prior to that date. Due regards mentioned equipment and arrangement

standards shall be in accordance with Resolution A.1045(27), as amended, and IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1428, except as provided otherwise.

## 5. Pilot Transfer Arrangements:

5.1 Pilot transfer arrangements shall meet the standards of regulation V/23 of the SOLAS convention and IMO Resolution A.1045(27), as amended. Furthermore, in applying the relevant provisions of SOLAS Regulation V/23.3.3 for pilot transfer equipment and arrangements, the unified interpretation as contained in IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1495/Rev.1 and it shall be used as guidance.

5.2 Pilot transfer arrangements shall be provided to enable the pilot to embark and disembark safely on either side of the ship (SOLAS Regulation V/23, paragraph 3.1), with typical transfer arrangements shown in IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ. 1428.

5.3 All pilot ladders used for pilot transfer shall be clearly identified with tags or other permanent marking so as to enable identification of each appliance for the purposes of survey, inspection and record keeping.

5.4 A record shall be kept on the ship as to the date the identified ladder is placed into service and any repairs effected.

## 6. Inspection and Survey:

6.1 Pilot transfer equipment and arrangements shall be accessible, kept clean, properly maintained, properly stowed, and regularly inspected.

6.2 A pilot ladder shall be certified by the manufacturer as complying with this regulation or with an international standard, ISO799:2004 (E), „Ships and Marine Technology – Pilot Ladders“ and shall be to comply fully with the performance requirements for pilot ladders under the SOLAS convention.

6.3 Pilot ladders shall be inspected by the recognized organization in accordance with regulations 6, 7 and 8, of the chapter I, of the SOLAS convention. (Cargo ship safety equipment or passenger ship safety equipment survey).

6.4 Pilot ladders must be inspected before every use, as well as on a regular basis as per the ship's maintenance system, on the basis of ISM code.

6.5 Records of maintenance repair and inspections of pilot ladders are subject to annual flag state inspection.

6.6 Pilot ladders that fail an inspection, or that are over 30 months old and have no strength testing certificate, should never be used.

## 7. Contact Details:

7.1 Recognized Organizations, Shipowner, ship operator or Management Company of a ship flying the Georgian flag may contact MTA for Additional consultations and assistance.

LEPL – Maritime Transport Agency of Georgia  
Ships Registry and Flag Control Department  
Tel: +995 (422) 274925  
E-mail: [fsi@mta.gov.ge](mailto:fsi@mta.gov.ge)  
Hotline/AOH: +995 (577) 221622

## Attachments:

*Annex I - IMO Assembly Resolution A.1045(27), Pilot Transfer Arrangements;*

*Annex II - IMO Assembly Resolution A.1108(29);*

*Annex III - IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1428, Pilot Transfer Arrangements - Required boarding arrangements for pilots;*

*Annex IV - IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1495/Rev.1, Unified Interpretation of SOLAS Regulation V/23.3.3;*

*Annex V - IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1375/Rev.1, Unified Interpretation of SOLAS Regulation V/23.*

Director

SIGNED/SEALED  
ELECTRONICALLY 

Tamar Ioseliani

