



IRCLASS
Indian Register of Shipping



RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND CLASSIFICATION OF INLAND WATERWAYS VESSELS

RULES CHANGE NOTICE NO. 2

December 2024

General Information

This Rules Change Notice gives the new additions and amendments to the 'Rules and Regulations for the Construction and Classification of Inland Waterways Vessels' along with the effective dates from which these changes are applicable.

These new additions and amendments are to be read in conjunction with the requirements given in the July, 2024 edition of the Rules and 'Rules Change Notice No.1 September, 2024'.

The Part / Chapters where amendments are made and their effective dates are indicated in **TABLE 1**. The actual requirements, arranged in the order of Part / Chapter / Section / Sub-section / Clause, have been given subsequently.

Corrigenda issued with this Rules Change Notice are given in **TABLE 2**.

For ease of reference, the newly added text has been highlighted by underlining and the deleted text by striking through.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND CLASSIFICATION OF INLAND WATERWAYS VESSELS – July 2024

RULES CHANGE NOTICE No. 2 – December 2024

TABLE 1 – AMENDMENTS INCORPORATED IN THIS NOTICE

These amendments will come into force as indicated in the Table

Section / Clause	Subject/ Amendments
Part 1 Chapter 1: General	
<i>The amendments are applicable to vessels contracted for construction on or after 1 January 2025.</i>	
2/ 2.8.2	It is specified that IW vessels can also be assigned relevant and applicable service type notations as indicated in the HSC & LC Rules.
Part 1 Chapter 2: Periodical Surveys	
<i>The amendments are applicable to surveys carried out on or after 1 January 2025.</i>	
1/ 1.1.3 (new)	Provision for special consideration of scope and periodicity of surveys based on published Rules of local or national statutory authorities, is introduced.
Part 5 Chapter 3: Passenger Vessels	
<i>The amendments are applicable to vessels contracted for construction on or after 1 January 2025</i>	
4/ 4.5.1.2	Prescriptive requirements specifying the use of loudspeaker and fixed microphone for transmission/ reception for communication from steering position are deleted.
4/ 4.5.2 Note (new)	A note is added to clarify the applicability of requirements for Public Address (PA) systems.
4/ 4.5.2.2	Amendments are made to clarify when a portable loud hailer may be provided in lieu of a PA system.
4/ 4.5.2.3	Editorial changes are made for better clarity.
4/ 4.6.1 Note (new)	A note is added to clarify the applicability of requirements for Passenger and Crew Warning Systems.

TABLE 2 – CORRIGENDA INCORPORATED IN THIS NOTICE

Section / Clause	Subject/ Corrigenda
Part 3 Chapter 13: Anchoring and Mooring Equipment	
1/ 1.1.4	Cross reference corrected.
3/ 3.1.6	Cross reference corrected.

Part 1

Regulations

Chapter 1

General

Section 2

Classification Regulations

2.8 Notations and Requirements for High-Speed Vessels in Inland Waters

2.8.2 Where such vessels satisfy the high-speed criteria specified in Chapter 1, Section 2.2.27 of the *IRS Rules and Regulations for the Construction and Classification of High Speed Crafts and Light Crafts* (hereinafter referred to as the HSC & LC Rules), the notation '**HSLC**'

would be assigned. Other fast crafts of light construction would be assigned '**LC**' notation, as defined in Chapter 1, Section 2.1.1b of the HSC & LC Rules. The vessels would also be assigned service restriction notations RS 2 and RS 3 [together with the service type notation](#) (as indicated in HSC & LC Rules), as relevant and applicable.

End of Chapter

Part 1

Regulations

Chapter 2

Periodical Surveys

Section 1

General Requirements

1.1 General

[specific requirements in published Rules of local or national statutory authorities.](#)

[1.1.3 Scope and periodicity of surveys may be specially considered taking into account the](#)

End of Chapter

Part 3

General Hull Requirements

Chapter 13

Anchoring and Mooring Equipment

Section 1

General

1.1 Introduction

1.1.4 The requirements for anchoring and mooring equipment specified in this Section are intended for vessels operating purely in Inland Waterways. For Indian River-Sea vessels and

vessels assigned notation INDIAN INSHORE TRAFFIC CORRIDOR VESSEL, the requirements in Part 3, Chapter ~~14~~¹⁵ of the *Rules and Regulations for the Construction and Classification of Steel Ships* are to be complied with, as relevant and applicable.

Section 3

Anchors

3.1 General

3.1.6 When anchors of a design approved for the designation 'High Holding Power' are used as bower anchors, the mass of each such

anchor may be reduced as indicated in 3.5.1. For approval of other HHP anchors, see ~~Pl.3, Ch.15~~^{Part 3, Chapter 14}, Cl.4.2 of the *Rules and Regulations for the Construction and Classification of Steel Ships*.

End of Chapter

Part 5

Special Ship Types

Chapter 3

Passenger Vessels

Section 4

Electrical Installations

4.5 Internal Communication Facilities

4.5.1 Communication from steering position

4.5.1.2 It is to be possible to establish communication links from the steering position:

- a) with the bow of the vessel;
- b) with the stern of the vessel if no direct communication is possible from the steering position;
- c) with the crew accommodation;
- d) with the master's cabin.
- e) with service spaces
- f) with engine room (control platform)
- g) muster areas for passengers

~~Reception at all positions of these internal communication links is to be via loudspeaker, and transmission is to be via a fixed microphone.~~ The link with the bow and stern of the vessel may be of the radio-telephone type.

4.5.2 Public address systems

Note: Requirements in this sub-section are applicable to vessels with sleeping cabins and/or vessels carrying more than 50 passengers, unless specified otherwise.

4.5.2.1 Required public address systems are to comply with the relevant requirements of the appropriate Statutory Authority and with the following requirements.

4.5.2.2 The public address system is to be capable of broadcasting messages from the wheelhouse to:

- a) all passenger spaces;
- b) control stations where there is no other direct communication means from the wheelhouse; and
- c) in the areas for embarking and disembarking passengers as well as muster areas and evacuation areas.

On vessels without sleeping cabins and carrying not more than 50 passengers, where passengers have access to only one passenger compartment or space, Loudspeakers may be omitted in passenger spaces where it can be demonstrated that effective direct communication between the wheelhouse and the passenger spaces is possible. a portable loud hailer may be provided in lieu of a public address system.

4.5.2.3 The public address system, where provided, is to be designed in such a way as to ensure that the information transmitted can be clearly distinguished from background noise.

4.6 Alarm System

4.6.1 Passenger and Crew Warning System

Note: Requirements in this sub-section are applicable to vessels with sleeping cabins only.

4.6.1.1 The vessel is to be equipped with an alarm system enabling passengers, crew members and shipboard personnel to alert the

vessel's command and crew. This alarm is to be given only in areas assigned to the vessel's command and to the crew; it should only be possible for the vessel's command to stop the alarm. The alarm is to be capable of being triggered from at least the following places:

- a) in each cabin;
- b) in the corridors, lifts and stairwells, with the distance to the nearest trigger not exceeding 10 [m] and with at least one trigger per watertight compartment;
- c) in accommodation area, dining rooms and similar recreation rooms;

- d) in toilets, intended for use by persons with reduced mobility;
- e) in engine rooms, galleys and similar rooms where there is a fire risk;
- f) in the cold-storage rooms and other store rooms of high risk.

The alarm triggers are to be protected against unintentional use and installed at a height above the floor of 0.85 [m] to 1.10 [m];

End of Chapter