



CIRCULAR

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In accordance with § 95 (8) of the Estonian Maritime Safety Act, the Estonian Maritime Administration provides clarification of the use of language on board ships entitled to fly the Estonian flag, specified in IMO Conventions SOLAS 74, as amended and MARPOL 73/78, as amended. The same principles of language requirements are established also for ships below convention size and for ships engaged only in domestic voyages:

1. Working language (SOLAS 2012 Amend/Chapter V/Reg.14.3) - to ensure effective crew performance in safety matters, a working language shall be established and recorded in the ship's log-book.
2. Damage Control Plan and booklets (SOLAS 1974/Chapter II-1/Reg. 20) - in language(s) understandable by appropriate ship's officers and in the English language.
3. Training manuals (SOLAS 2012 Amend/Chapter II-2/Reg. 15.2.3 and SOLAS 2006 Amend/Chapter III/Reg.35) and Fire Safety operational booklets (SOLAS 2008 Amend/Chapter II-2/Reg. 16.2) - in the working language of the ship.
4. Fire Control Plans (SOLAS 2012 Amend/Chapter II-2/Reg. 15.2.4) - in the working language of the ship and when engaged on international voyages also in the English language.
5. Illustrations and instructions for passengers (SOLAS 1996-1998 Amend/Chapter III/Reg.8.4) - in the Estonian and English languages; and when engaged in international regular voyages additionally in the official language(s) of the state(s) visited.
6. Muster list and Emergency instructions (SOLAS 1996-1998 Amend/Chapter III/Reg.37 and 8.2) - in the working language of the ship; in the case of passenger ships when engaged in international voyages additionally in the English language.
7. Operating instructions (SOLAS 1996-1998 Amend/Chapter III/Reg.9) - in the working language of the ship.
8. Instructions for on-board maintenance (SOLAS 1996-1998 Amend/Chapter III/Reg.36) – in the language understandable by the master and officers.
9. Decision support system for masters of passenger ships (SOLAS 1996-1998 Amend/Chapter III/Reg. 29) - in the working language of the ship.

10. Stability Information (SOLAS 1988 Amend/Chapter II-1/Reg.22.1) and Stability of Ships in Damaged Condition (SOLAS 1974/Chapter II-1/Reg.7 (g)) - when engaged in international voyages in the language(s) understandable by appropriate ship's officer(s) and in the English language. On domestic voyages in the Estonian language or another language understandable by appropriate ship's officer(s).
11. Ship-specific plans and procedures for recovery of persons from the water (SOLAS 2012 Amend/ Chapter III /Reg. 17-1) - in the working language of the ship.
12. Emergency towing procedures (SOLAS 2008 Amend/Chapter II-1/Reg. 3-4.2) - in the working language of the ship.
13. Cargo Securing Manual (SOLAS 2001-2003 Amend/Chapter VI/Reg.5.6) - in a language understandable by appropriate ship's officers and when engaged in international voyages also in the English language.
14. Ship structure access manual (SOLAS 2005 Amend/Chapter II-1/Reg. 3-6.4) - when engaged in international voyages in the language(s) understandable by appropriate ship's officer(s) and in the English language.
15. Oil Record Book, Part I - Machinery space operations (MARPOL 2009 Amend/Annex I/Reg. 17); Oil Record Book, Part II - Cargo/ballast operations (MARPOL 2004 Amend (Oct.)/Annex I/Reg. 36); and Garbage Record Book (MARPOL 2016 Amendment (70th)/Annex V/Reg.10.3) - when engaged in international voyages in the English language; on domestic voyages in working language.
16. Shipboard oil pollution emergency plan (SOPEP) (MARPOL 2004 Amend (Oct.)/Annex I/Reg. 37) and Shipboard marine pollution emergency plan for Noxious Liquid Substances (SMPEP) (MARPOL 2004 Amend (Oct.)/Annex II/Reg. 17) - in the working language or in a language understandable by the master and officers.
17. Garbage management plan (MARPOL 2016 Amendment (70th)/Annex V/Reg.10.2) - in the working language of the crew.
18. Garbage Placards (MARPOL 2016 Amendment (70th)/Annex V/Reg. 10.1) - in the working language of the ship's crew and when engaged in international voyages also in the English language.

Sincerely

(signed digitally)
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Head of Maritime Safety Division
Deputy Director General