Version	Date	Modification details	Editor
0.9	17.08.2023	Part B, Section I, Reg. 2, nearest land is any land above seawater level	Tuomas Kokoi
1.0	29.8.2023	First issue for new system	Patrik Bussman
1.1	27.1.2026	Added Reg 8.2, languages	Tuomas Kokoi
1.2	12.10.2026	Added Reg 26.3.2, FRB crews Added Reg 19.3.4.5, drills	Tuomas Kokoi

National interpretation regarding IMO Publication:

International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS 1974) as amended

General notes for interpretations

Whenever this document refers to a recognised organization (RO) or classification society, it means recognised organisation authorised by the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom.

The RO shall inform Traficom if any communication with IMO, or any agreement with other Governments, is needed.

Unless expressly provided otherwise; exemptions, equivalents and exceptions are to be handled by Traficom.

Footnotes are to be complied with.

Order to be followed to find an interpretation:

1. Interpretations from Traficom are to be followed. If not available,
2. Interpretations in IMO Resolutions and Circulars are to be followed. If not available,
3. Interpretations in IACS UI supported by IMO are to be followed. If not available,
4. Traficom must be consulted with.

SOLAS Chapter III

Life-saving appliances and arrangements

Part B Requirements for ships and life-saving appliances	
Section I Passenger ships and cargo ships	
Reg. 2	Exemptions
1	Traficom considers that in the Baltic Sea area the nearest land is any land that is above the seawater level.
Reg. 3	Definitions
25	Requirements for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair Traficom authorizes only service providers that are located in Finland in accordance with MSC.402(96) and national regulation on Service Providers of Maritime Safety Equipment (TRAFICOM/44896/03.04.01.00/2019)
Reg. 6	Communication
5.3	Approval of public address system The public address system shall be installed according to MSC/Circ.808
Reg. 7	Personal life-saving appliances
2.1.4	Lifejackets A sufficient number of lifejackets is at least one on each relevant location.
2.1.5	Lifejackets Sufficient number of lifejackets shall be available onboard to persons weighing up to 140 kg and with a chest girth up to 1750 mm i.e. every person onboard shall have a lifejacket that fit their weight and size.
3	Immersion suits and anti-exposure suits Traficom can give exemptions on this requirement based on MSC/Circ.1046
Reg. 8	Muster list and emergency instructions
2	The languages required by the flag state are the English language, the working language of the ship and the languages of the ship's largest passenger groups.
Reg. 10	Manning of survival craft and supervision

4	For davit launched liferafts, a deck officer or certificated person shall be placed in charge of every two liferafts to be used. For the rest of the davit launched liferafts, persons trained in accordance with Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats other than Fast Rescue Boats (STCW A-VI/2-1) and practiced in the handling and operation of liferafts may be placed in charge. Deck officers or certificated persons and persons trained and having practice in the handling and operation of liferafts shall be equitably distributed on each side of the ship in accordance with the muster list.
Reg. 11	Survival craft muster and embarkation arrangements
7	Traficom only accepts embarkation ladders complying with requirements in 6.1.6 of the LSA Code.
Reg. 17	Rescue boat embarkation, launching and recovery arrangements
1	In case where a rescue boat or a liferaft is to be launched by using the same launching appliance, rescue boat shall have priority with regard to hook storage position.
Reg. 19	Emergency training and drills
3.2	Drills Traficom may accept equivalent or other arrangements.
3.3.5	Abandon ship drill Traficom may accept exemptions according to the regulation.
3.4.5	Traficom allows 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 to gunwale at least once every three months and launched at least annually. Crew assigned to abandon ship duties on the one side shall participate in drills on the other side.
5	Records Date and details of drills shall be recorded in the ships logbook.
Reg. 20	Operational readiness, maintenance and inspections
3.3	Maintenance Traficom accepts a shipboard planned maintenance program as long as the requirements in regulation 36 are included.
6.2	Weekly inspection Traficom do not accept any exemptions.
7	Traficom strongly recommended the procedure to be followed according to MSC/Circ.1047

8.1.1	Servicing of inflatable liferafts, inflatable lifejackets, marine evacuation systems and maintenance and repair of inflated rescue boats In any case the 12 months service is impracticable Traficom may extend this period to 17 months. Traficom interprets that the due date of the annual service is the last day of the month in which the equipment has been serviced the year before. For example: Date of last service is 5th May 2017, the next annual service shall be carried out before the end of May 2018.
8.3	Traficom may permit extended service intervals for new and novel inflatable liferafts arrangements. The arrangements shall be inspected onboard every 12 months by certified personnel, specially packed with a hermetic seal and marked to indicate that it has been approved and certified for extended service.
9.1	Periodic servicing of hydrostatic release units In any case the 12 months service is impracticable Traficom may extend this period to 17 months. Traficom interprets that the due date of the annual service is the last day of the month in which the equipment has been serviced the year before. For example: Date of last service is 5th May 2017, the next annual service shall be carried out before the end of May 2018.
11	Maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats, rescue boats and fast rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear The service provider carrying out maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats, rescue boats and fast rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear shall be authorized in accordance with MSC.402(96) by Traficom, the vessel´s RO or the Administration of the country in which the vessel is. The authorization shall cover the equipment (makes and types) onboard the vessel.

Section II	
Passenger ships	
Reg 26.3.2	Fast rescue boats Two crews are required only for one mandatory fast rescue boat referred to in regulation 26.3.1.

Section III	
Cargo ships	
Reg 31.1.4	Survival craft Available at the location of such liferaft, there should be at least two lifejackets, two immersion suits, embarkation ladder according to regulation 11.7 and sufficient illumination according regulation 16.7 and MSC.1/Circ.1243.
Reg. 32	Personal life-saving appliances
2.3	Lifejackets lights Traficom only accepts MED certified lifejacket lights
3.2	Immersion suits Traficom can give exemptions on this requirement based on MSC/Circ.1046
3.3	Immersion suits When any watch station (bridge, ECR), work station or remotely located survival craft is located more than 100 meters from the place or places where immersion suits are normally stowed, additional immersion suits (at least two) shall be provided at these locations for the number of persons normally on watch or working at these locations at any time.

Part C Alternative design and arrangements	
Reg. 38	Alternative design and arrangements
3 4.1 6	Evaluation of the alternative design and arrangements and re-evaluation due to changes of conditions
5	Communication to IMO