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Ref. T4/3.01

MSC/Circ.1139  
15 December 2004

**CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO PROPULSION CONTROL AUTOMATION  
SYSTEMS OF SHIPS BUILT AFTER 1 JULY 1986, BUT BEFORE 1 JULY 2004  
(SOLAS REGULATION II-1/31)**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), at its seventy-ninth session (1 to 10 December 2004), recalled that, at its seventy-sixth session, it had adopted, by resolution MSC.134(76), amendments to SOLAS regulation II-1/31, prescribing functional requirements for automated propulsion control systems. The amendments entered into force on 1 July 2004.

2 Regulation II-1/31, because of its location in SOLAS chapter II-1, applies to all ships the keels of which are laid after 1 July 1986. However, the Committee agreed that it was not the intention to apply this regulation to ships already in service (constructed before 1 July 2004). The Committee, therefore, clarified that regulation 31.2.10 of part C of chapter II-1 of SOLAS should only apply to ships constructed on or after 1 July 2004.

3 The Committee noted that draft SOLAS amendments to that effect had been circulated by circular letter No.2592 of 28 October 2004, following a request by the United Kingdom, for consideration with a view to adoption at MSC 80 in May 2005.

4 Member Governments are invited to bring the above information to the attention of all parties concerned.