CIRCULAR no. 5/2002

Category

☐ Operational ☐ Nautical

☐ Technical ☒ Other

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Sign.:

Issue:

Guidelines to be followed by Classification Societies when evaluating marine equipment required to be approved.

This circular is valid from 1 June 2002 and supersedes NIS Circular nos. 9/1990 and 2/2000.

As required by the agreement between the European Union and Norway, Norway has implemented Council Directive 96/98/EC of 20 December 1996 on marine equipment (Marine Equipment Directive), as amended by Council Directives 98/85/EC and 2001/53/EC. As such, the Directive applies to those ships registered in NOR and NIS being required by an international convention to be fitted with marine equipment. The Marine Equipment Directive entered into force in Norway 1 January 1999. According to the general rules of the Directive, equipment fitted after this date shall be approved in accordance with the Directive. However, there is one exception to this general rule: Equipment listed as "new item" under the heading "item designation" of Annex A.1 of the Directive, manufactured before 20 February 2002 may be placed onboard any ship until 20 February 2004, provided that this equipment has been type approved earlier by, or on behalf of, a Flag State "within the Community" (i.e. in Norway, Island or one of the EU countries).

The full text of the Marine Equipment Directive can be found on the following internet address:

http://www.mared.org/

In the case of transfer of register to NIS for a ship, for which the keel was laid on or after 1 January 1999 and not registered "within the Community" (i.e. in Norway, Island or one of the EU countries), the ship shall, on transfer, be subject to inspection by the classification society to verify that the actual condition of its equipment corresponds to its safety certificates and either complies with the Marine Equipment Directive and bears the MED mark (wheel mark) or is equivalent, to the satisfaction of the classification society, to equipment type approval in accordance with the Marine Equipment Directive. Equipment which is considered equivalent according to the above shall be given a certificate by the classification society which shall at all times be carried with the equipment and which gives the Norwegian authorities permission for the equipment to be placed on board the ship.

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