

## Shipping & Transport - Cyprus

### Department accepts early implementation of safety regulation amendments

Contributed by **Andreas Neocleous & Co LLC**

November 27 2013

At its May 2012 session, the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organisation adopted amendments to Regulation III/20.11.2 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974, concerning the operational testing of free-fall lifeboat release systems.

The amendments were due to enter into force on January 1 2014, but the committee subsequently issued a circular<sup>(1)</sup> encouraging governments and shipowners to adopt the amendments at the earliest possible opportunity, rather than waiting for the formal implementation date.

The Department of Merchant Shipping has announced that it accepts the recommendation. The amended procedures should therefore be adopted immediately by owners, charterers, managers and operators of ships flying the Cyprus flag.

*For further information on this topic please contact Vassilis Psyrras at Andreas Neocleous & Co LLC by telephone (+357 25 110 000), fax (+357 25 110 001) or email ([vassilis.psyrras@neocleous.com](mailto:vassilis.psyrras@neocleous.com)). The Andreas Neocleous website can be viewed at [www.neocleous.com](http://www.neocleous.com).*

#### Endnotes

<sup>(1)</sup> MSC.1/Circ 1411.

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#### Author

##### Vasileios Psyrras



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