



SUB-COMMITTEE ON SHIP DESIGN AND
EQUIPMENT
53rd session
Agenda item 4

DE 53/4/1
26 August 2009
Original: ENGLISH

COMPATIBILITY OF LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES

Clarification to the requirements of the LSA Code regarding radar transponders

Submitted by the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS)

SUMMARY

Executive summary:	This document provides comments on the requirements of the International Life-Saving Appliances (LSA) Code in respect of survival craft radar transponders
Strategic direction:	5.1
High-level action:	5.1.2
Planned output:	5.1.2.2
Action to be taken:	Paragraph 5
Related documents:	Resolution MSC.256(84); SOLAS regulations III/6.2.2 and III/26.2.5; LSA Code, paragraphs 4.1.5.1.14, 4.4.8.30 and 4.1.1.5.7

Background

1 MSC 84 adopted amendments to SOLAS regulation III/6.2.2 by means of resolution MSC.256(84), which, upon entry into force on 1 January 2010, will change the terminology from “radar transponder” to “search and rescue locating device” and will accept carrying an AIS-SART as a search and rescue locating device.

Discussion

2 LSA Code paragraphs 4.1.5.1.14 and 4.4.8.30 require that a liferaft and lifeboat shall be equipped with an efficient radar reflector, unless a survival craft “radar transponder” is stowed on board. Additionally, LSA Code paragraph 4.1.1.5.7 requires that a liferaft canopy shall be provided with means to mount a survival craft “radar transponder” at a height of at least 1 m above the sea.

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3 Given the change in terminology and that an AIS-SART can be allowed as an alternative to a radar transponder, IACS considers that this should also be applied to the above-mentioned provisions of the LSA Code, i.e. the terminology “radar transponder” should be changed to “search and rescue locating device” and an AIS-SART should be allowed to be stowed in the survival craft.

4 IACS seeks clarification on the above.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

5 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the above issues and decide as appropriate.
