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SOLAS XII/6.5.1 in terms of protection of cargo holds from loading/discharge equipment

(SOLAS regulation XII/6.5.1 and SLS.14/Circ.250)

Regulations

SOLAS regulation XII/6.5.1 reads:

"In bulk carriers of 150 m in length and upwards, carrying solid bulk cargoes having a density of 1,000 kg/m³ and above, constructed on or after 1 July 2006:

.1 the structure of cargo holds shall be such that all contemplated cargoes can be loaded and discharged by standard loading/discharge equipment and procedures without damage which may compromise the safety of the structure."

Unified Interpretation (SLS.14./Circ.250)

The paragraph 1 for SOLAS regulation XII/6.5.1 in SLS.14/Circ.250 reads:

"Regulation XII/6.5.1 Protection of cargo holds from loading/discharge equipment

- 1. The protection of the structure of the cargo holds should be achieved by structural design features such as mandatory application of classification society grab notation.*
- 2. The protection of hatchways and coamings from grab wire damage may be achieved by fitting protection bars (e.g., half-round bar) on the hatch-side girder (e.g., upper portion of top-side tank plates), hatch-end beams and the upper portion of hatch coamings."*

Interpretation

Bulk Carriers which shall comply with SOLAS regulation XII/6.5.1 and which do not comply with the IACS CSR for Bulk Carriers, are to comply with the following:

1. The Society's "Grab Notation";
2. Wire rope grooving in way of cargo holds openings is to be prevented by fitting suitable protection such as half-round bar on the hatch side girders (i.e. upper portion of top side tank plates)/hatch end beams in cargo hold and upper portion of hatch coamings.

Note:

1. This UI is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies from 1 July 2006.
2. Prior to Corr.2, half-round bars may be applied on the hatch side girders (i.e. upper portion of top side tank plates)/hatch end beams in cargo hold or upper portion of hatch coamings. The corrected interpretation in Corr.2 is not applicable retrospectively (i.e. to ships contracted for construction before 1 July 2009).
3. The "contracted for construction" date means the date on which the contract to build the vessel is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. For further details regarding the date of "contract for construction", refer to IACS Procedural Requirement (PR) No. 29.

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