
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1975 No. 330

The Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975

PART II

FISHING VESSEL CONSTRUCTION RULES

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MISCELLANEOUS PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Watertight doors

44.—(1) In every vessel of 12 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply the number of doors fitted in any watertight bulkhead shall be as few as reasonably practicable and every such door shall be efficiently constructed and be watertight when closed.

(2) In every such vessel subject to the provisions of paragraph (3) below doors of the sliding type, whether controlled manually or otherwise, shall be operable by efficient gear both at the door itself and from an accessible position above the weather deck and the remote controls for such operation shall be situated outside the compartment containing the door unless such a position is inconsistent with the efficient arrangement of the necessary gearing.

(3) In every such vessel where there is access from the lower part of a machinery space to a watertight shaft tunnel the access opening shall be provided with a sliding watertight door which shall be capable of being operated from each side of the door itself.

(4) In every such vessel means shall be provided at remote operating positions to indicate when a sliding door is closed.

(5) In every such vessel doors of the hinged type shall be capable of being operated from each side of the door itself.

(6) In every such vessel all doors shall be capable of being efficiently operated when the vessel is listed up to 15 degrees either way.

Steering gear—vessels of 24.4 metres in length and over fitted with rudders

45.—(1) Every vessel of 24.4 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply shall be fitted with efficient main steering gear, which shall be power operated in vessels over 45 metres in length, and efficient auxiliary steering gear. No auxiliary steering gear shall be required where suitable duplicate steering gear power units and their connections are fitted in a satisfactory manner and—

- (a) each power unit complies with the requirements of paragraph (2)(b) below;
- (b) each power unit enables the steering gear to meet the requirements of paragraph (2)(a) below.

(2) In every such vessel—

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- (a) the main steering gear, rudder and associated fittings shall be adequate to steer the vessel at maximum ahead service speed and shall be so designed that they are not damaged at maximum astern speed or by manoeuvring during fishing operations;
 - (b) the auxiliary steering gear shall be capable of being brought rapidly into action and shall be adequate to enable the vessel to be steered at navigable speed.
- (3) In every such vessel, the main steering gear shall be capable of putting the rudder over from 35° on one side to 30° on the other in 30 seconds when the vessel is at maximum ahead service speed with the rudder totally submerged and, if manually operated, shall be designed to prevent violent recoil of the steering wheel.
- (4) Every such vessel shall be so constructed that the person steering from the main wheelhouse control position has a clear view ahead.
- (5) Every such vessel which is fitted with power operated steering gear shall have a rudder position indicator in the wheelhouse.

Steering gear—vessels of 12 metres in length and over but less than 24.4 metres in length fitted with rudders

- 46.**—(1) Every vessel of 12 metres in length and over but less than 24.4 metres in length to which these Rules apply shall be provided with efficient main steering gear and auxiliary means of steering.
- (2) In every such vessel—
- (a) the main steering gear including the rudder and associated fittings shall be of adequate strength and capable of steering the vessel at maximum ahead service speed and shall be so designed that they are not damaged at maximum astern speed or by manoeuvring during fishing operations;
 - (b) the auxiliary means of steering shall be capable of being brought rapidly into action and shall enable the vessel to be steered at a navigable speed.
- (3) In every such vessel the main steering gear shall be capable of turning the rudder from 35° on one side to 30° on the other in 30 seconds when the vessel is at navigable speed and from 20° on one side to 20° on the other in 30 seconds when the vessel is at maximum service speed, with the rudder totally submerged.
- (4) Every such vessel shall be so constructed that the person steering has a clear view ahead when at the principal steering station.
- (5) Every such vessel which is fitted with power operated steering gear shall have a rudder position indicator in the wheelhouse.

Steering gear—vessels of 12 metres in length and over fitted with steering devices other than rudders

- 47.** In every vessel of 12 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply which is fitted with a steering device other than a rudder the construction and operation of such a device shall be adequate and suitable for its intended purpose.

Electrical and Electro-hydraulic steering gear

- 48.**—(1) In every vessel of 12 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply where electrical or electro-hydraulic steering gear is fitted, indicators shall be provided which will show when the power units of such steering gear are in operation. These indicators shall be situated in the machinery control room or other suitable positions and in the wheelhouse.
- (2) In every vessel of 45 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply—

- (a) electrical and electro-hydraulic steering gear shall be served by two circuits fed from the main switchboard, one of which may pass through an emergency switchboard if one is provided. Each circuit shall have adequate capacity for supplying all the motors which are normally connected to it and which operate simultaneously. Where transfer arrangements are provided in the steering gear room to permit either circuit to supply any motor or combination of motors, the capacity of each circuit shall be adequate for the most severe load condition. The circuits shall be separated as far apart as is reasonably practicable throughout their length;
- (b) short circuit protection only shall be provided for such circuits and motors.

(3) In every vessel of 12 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply where electric power is the only source of power for both main and auxiliary steering gear the provisions of paragraph (2) above shall apply except that where auxiliary steering gear is powered by a motor primarily intended for other services suitable overload protection may be fitted.

Communication between wheelhouse and engine room—vessels of 24.4 metres in length and over

49. Every vessel of 24.4 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply shall be provided with two separate means of communicating orders from the wheelhouse to the engine room control platform. One of the means shall be an engine room telegraph except where the means of propulsion are directly controlled from the wheelhouse.

Controllable pitch propellers

50. Where any vessel of 12 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply is equipped with a controllable pitch propeller the propeller and its control gear shall be adequate having regard to the intended service of the vessel.

Refrigerating plants

51.—(1) In every vessel of 12 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply refrigerating plants shall be of a design and construction adequate for the service for which they are intended and shall be so installed and protected as to reduce to a minimum any danger to persons on board.

(2) In every such vessel ammonia and methylchloride shall not be used as refrigerants.

Anchors and chain cables

52. Every vessel of 12 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply shall be equipped with anchors and chain cables sufficient in number, weight and strength, having regard to the vessel's size and intended service except that wire rope of suitable strength may be substituted for chain cable provided that a suitable length and weight of chain cable is attached between the wire rope and the anchor. Where an anchor weighs more than 68 kilogrammes a windlass or a suitable winch normally used for fishing operations shall be provided for working the anchor and shall be maintained in effective working order. Anchor and chain cables with which the vessel is equipped in accordance with this Rule shall comply with the requirements of the Anchor and Cables Rules, 1970(1) so far as those Rules are applicable to that anchor and chain cable.

(1) (1970 III, p. 4766).

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Spare gear

53. In every vessel of 12 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply adequate spare gear shall be provided for main and auxiliary machinery and electrical equipment and installations of the vessel having regard to the intended service of the vessel.

Winches, tackles and lifting gear

54. Every vessel of 12 metres in length and over to which these Rules apply shall be provided with winches, tackles and lifting gear properly installed having regard to the intended service of the vessel.