



SUB-COMMITTEE ON SAFETY OF  
NAVIGATION  
52nd session  
Agenda item 14

NAV 52/14  
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## CONSIDERATION OF IACS UNIFIED INTERPRETATIONS

Submitted by The International Association of Classification Societies (IACS)

### SUMMARY

**Executive summary:** This paper advises on IACS Unified Interpretations COLREG 1, COLREG 2, COLREG 3 and COLREG 4 to be implemented by IACS Societies

**Action to be taken:** Paragraph 3

**Related document:** COLREG 1972

1 Attached at annex are IACS Unified Interpretations COLREG 1, COLREG 2, COLREG 3 and COLREG 4, which will be applied by IACS Members from 1 July 2006.

2 These interpretations will be applied by IACS Societies when acting as recognized organizations, authorized by flag State Administrations to act on their behalf, unless advised otherwise.

#### Action requested of the Sub-Committee

3 The Sub-Committee is invited to note the foregoing and take action as appropriate.

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# COL Interpretation to COLREG 1972 Annex 1, REG Section 9 (b)

## 1

(Jan 2006) **Regulation**

Annex 1, Section 9(b) reads:

(i) All round lights shall be so located as not to be obscured by masts, topmasts or superstructures within angular sectors of more than 6°, except anchor lights prescribed in Rule 30, which need not to be placed at an impractical height above the hull.

(ii) If it is impractical to comply with paragraph (b)(i) of this section by exhibiting only one all-round light, two all-round lights shall be used suitably positioned or screened so that they appear, as far as practicable, as one light at the distance of one mile.

### **Interpretation**

In order to comply with the 1 mile requirement in 9(b)(ii), the all-round lights shall be screened less than 180 degrees. However, as a light source is not a point but has a certain extension, it may be accepted that all-round lights are screened up to 180 degrees. Screenings details are to be considered by Societies when carrying out the drawing approval process.

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#### **Note:**

This UI is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Members and Associates from 1 July 2006.

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# COL Interpretation to COLREG 1972 Rule 23 (a) REG

## 2 Regulation

(Jan 2006) Rule 27(a) reads:

A power-driven vessel underway shall exhibit:

- (i) a masthead light forward;
- (ii) a second masthead light abaft of and higher than the forward one; except that a vessel of less than 50 m in length shall not be obliged to exhibit such a light but may do so;
- (iii) sidelights;
- (iv) a sternlight.

### Interpretation

Navigation lights (masthead light(s), sidelights and sternlight) installed on board shall be duplicated or shall be fitted with duplicate lamps.

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#### Note:

This UI is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Members and Associates from 1 July 2006.

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# COL Interpretation to COLREG 1972 Annex 1, REG Section 3 (b) 3

## Regulation

(Jan 2006)

Annex 1, Section 3(b) reads: On power-driven vessels of 20 m or more in length the sidelights shall not be placed in front of the forward masthead lights. They shall be placed at or near the side of the vessel.

## Interpretation

The term "near the side" is interpreted as being a distance of not more than 10% of the breadth of the vessel inboard from the side, up to a maximum of 2 metres. Where the application of above requirement is impractical (e.g. small ships with superstructure of reduced width) exemption may be given on the basis of the Flag Authority acceptance.

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### Note:

This UI is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Members and Associates from 1 July 2006.

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# COL Interpretation to COLREG 1972 Rule 27(b)(i) REG 4

## Regulation

Rule 27(b)(i) reads:

(Jan 2006)

A vessel restricted in her ability to manoeuvre, except a vessel engaged in mine clearance operations, shall exhibit:

(i) three all-round lights in line where they can best be seen. The highest and lowest of these lights shall be red and the middle light shall be white;

## Interpretation

“Not under command” (NUC) all-round red lights (Rule 27(a)(ii)) may be used as part of the “Restricted Ability to Manoeuvre” (RAM) lights provided the vertical and horizontal distances required by COLREG 1972 are complied with and the electrical system is arranged so that the all-round white light (RAM) may be switched on independently from the two all-round red lights (NUC).

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Note:

This UI is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Members and Associates from 1 July 2006.