



CIRCULAR No. 011 of 23 May 2011

To:	All Surveyors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	Winches, Acc. Ladders and ship's gangways survey
Reference:	Safety – Uniform application of SOLAS Reg. II-1/3-9 in association with MSC.1/Circ 1331

1. Applied Loads for new and existing Winches, Accommodation Ladders and Ship's Gangways during initial, annual and renewal surveys of Safety Equipment are specified in the following table:

Survey	Testing	Winch/Accommodation Ladder Arrangement [1]	Gangway[2]
Initial Installation[4]	Static Load Test (no permanent deformation permitted)	Apply load per §5.3.2 uniformly with winch suspending ladder in horizontal position	n/a
	Operational Test	Apply §3.6.2 with weight of ladder only (raise and lower ladder at least twice)	n/a
Renewal (5 years)[3][5]	Static Load Test (no permanent deformation permitted)	Apply load per §5.3.2[2] uniformly with winch holding ladder in horizontal position	Apply §5.1.2.2 with load per §5.3.2[3] applied uniformly to gangway in horizontal position
	Operational Test	Raise and lower ladder once (weight of ladder only)	n/a
Annual[5]	No load testing to be carried out; only examination of components		

Corporate Head Quarters
Edificio Los Jarros, Suite 414,
Boulevard Morazan
Tegucigalpa, Honduras, C.A.
Tel: (504) 263 2807, 237 0308,
238 4684, 238 4341;
Fax: (504) 238 4687
E-Mail: info@conarinagroup.com

Customer Service Center
5201 Blue Lagoon Drive, 9th Floor,
Miami, FL, 33126
Tel: 1 (305) 716 4116,
Fax: 1 (305) 716 4117,
E-Mail: joel@conarinagroup.com

Technical Head Office
7111 Dekadine Ct.
Spring, Tx., 77379
Tel: 1 (281) 370 9363
1 (713) 204 6380
E-Mail: tho@conarinagroup.com
houston@conarinagroup.com

- 1 – Includes landing platforms if fitted
- 2- Only when carried onboard the ship
- 3- If MWL unknown for existing gangways/ladders, owner nominates load as per §5.3.2
- 4 - Ships Constructed on/after 1 Jan 2010 and Equipment replaced on existing ships on/after 1 Jan 2010
- 5 - All installations, regardless of installation or ship construction date § refers to paragraphs from MSC.1/Circ.1331

2. Measurement of deflections is not required after testing. Instead, a visual inspection should be carried out to ensure that there is no damage or permanent deformation after testing.

3. Where it is not possible to site the means of embarkation and disembarkation clear of the working area or locations where cargo or other suspended solids pass overhead, then subject to the Administration's agreement the posting of a warning notice would be acceptable as an exemption from paragraph 3.1 of MSC.1/Circ.1331;

4. The tests as required in MSC.1/Circ.1331 paragraphs 5.1.1.2 for accommodation ladders, 5.1.2.2 for gangways and 5.2.2 for winches should be carried out with:

- a static test by applying the test load as required in paragraph 5.3.2; and
- an operational test (raising and lowering) with only the weight of accommodation ladder and no additional test load and are to be completed at the time of the passenger ship safety,/cargo ship safety equipment/cargo ship safety survey, not later 5 years after 1 Jan 2010 for existing arrangements on existing ships and, thereafter, at intervals no more than 5 years measured from the completion of the first test.

Kindest Regards,
Cosmin Bozenovici
Naval Architect – Conarina Technical Head Office

Corporate Head Quarters
Edificio Los Jarros, Suite 414,
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Tegucigalpa, Honduras, C.A.
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