

Subject:

1969 Tonnage Convention

NK TECHNICAL INFORMATION

No. 2

Date: August 23, 1982

To Shipowners and Shipyards concerned,

The International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969 (1969 Tonnage) came into force internationally on 18th July, 1982.

The Convention uses GROSS TONNAGE and NET TONNAGE but they are "the measure of the overall size of a ship" and "the measure of the useful capacity of a ship" respectively. Under the Convention, ships will be described as having Gross Tonnage and Net Tonnage which have no dimensions. The word Ton will no longer appear.

As of 18th July, 1982, the Governments joined the Convention are:

USSR, Iceland, Brazil, United Kingdom, Monaco, Yugoslavia, Norway, Mexico, Iraq, Liberia, Spain, Fiji, Finland, Ghana, Iran, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Israel, Germany (Federal Republic of), German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Belgium, Austria, Romania, Colombia, Bahamas, Poland, Algeria, Tonga, India, Switzerland, New Zealand, Panama, Philippines, Argentina, Trinidad and Tobago, Yemen, Sweden, Republic of Korea, China, Turkey, Japan, France, Guinea, Netherlands, Bangladesh, Australia (in force as from 21 August 82), Denmark (in force as from 22 September 82) Peru (in force as from 16 October 82).

By the Convention, the ships registered in one of the member Governments of the Convention the keels of which are laid or extensive alteration or modifications are commenced on or after 18th July, 1982 are required to have the International Tonnage Certificate (1969) of the Convention on board. Ships in service at the time of the coming into force of the Convention (existing ships under the Convention) are given a transition period of twelve years to the new Tonnage system. If the owners wish, the Convention can be applicable to existing ships under the Convention, but once the Convention is applied to, the ship may not be permitted to use another tonnage.

For application of SOLAS Convention, it is agreed internationally through IMO (formerly IMCO) that the gross tonnage values according to the national Rules before the Convention came into force may be used as SOLAS parameter within the limited conditions. Governments such as Liberia and Panama require a certificate showing this gross tonnage value for application of SOLAS to be kept on board.

For details, please inquire to the Society's Tokyo Head Office.

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