



Technical Circular

No.: 08/2015

Date: 15th May 2015

To Whomsoever it may concern

Subject: Increased LLMC liability limits will enter into force on 8 June 2015

Following the decision made by the Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organization in 2012, the limits of liability contained in the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims, 1976 (LLMC) will increase with effect from 8 June 2015. The LLMC sets specified limits of liability for claims for loss of life or personal injury as well as for property claims against shipowners, based on the ship's gross tonnage (GT). The increase to the limits of liability were agreed using the tacit acceptance procedure contained in the 1996 Protocol to the LLMC and will therefore enter into force 36 months from the date of notification of their adoption in 2012.

The LLMC limits were increased by 51% taking into account the following three factors:

- (i) the experience of incidents and, in particular, the amount of damage resulting therefrom;
- (ii) changes in the monetary values; and
- (iii) the effect of the proposed amendment on the cost of insurance.

The new limits under the amendments to the 1996 Protocol to the LLMC are the following:

For claims for loss of life or personal injury on ships not exceeding 2,000 GT the liability limit is increased to 3.02 million Special Drawing Rights (SDR), the daily conversion rates of which can be found on the website of the [International Monetary Fund](#). For larger ships, the additional amounts set out below are used in calculating the limitation amount.

- For each ton from 2,001 to 30,000 tons, 1,208 SDR
- For each ton from 30,001 to 70,000 tons, 906 SDR

- For each ton in excess of 70,000, 604 SDR
For claims for loss of or damage to property, the limit of liability for ships not exceeding 2,000 GT is 1.51 million SDR. For larger ships, the additional amounts set out below are used in calculating the limitation amount.
- For each ton from 2,001 to 30,000 tons, 604 SDR
- For each ton from 30,001 to 70,000 tons, 453 SDR
- For each ton in excess of 70,000 tons, 302 SDR
The LLMC, and thus the increased liability limits, is also relevant for incidents under the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, 2001 and the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007 as these conventions include a right for shipowners to limit their liability in accordance with the LLMC. The Bunker Convention has been in force since 2008, while the Wreck Removal Convention entered into force on 14 April 2015.

Enclosure:

1. Nil.

Whilst the utmost care has been taken in the compilation of the Technical Information, neither Indian Register of Shipping, its affiliates and subsidiaries if any, nor any of its directors, officers, employees or agents assume any responsibility and shall not be liable to any person for any loss, damage or expense caused in any manner whatsoever by reliance on the information in this document.