

L.N. 25 of 2023

**Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Safety and Survey)
(Amendment) Regulation 2023**

(Made by the Secretary for Transport and Logistics under section 89
of the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance (Cap. 548))

1. Commencement

This Regulation comes into operation on 5 May 2023.

**2. Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Safety and Survey)
Regulation amended**

The Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Safety and Survey)
Regulation (Cap. 548 sub. leg. G) is amended as set out in
sections 3 to 11.

3. Section 34 amended (application of Division 2 of Part 5)

Section 34(1)(b), after “dangerous goods carrier,”—

Add

“a gas carrier,”.

4. Section 80A amended (automatic identification system)

After section 80A(2)(a)—

Add

“(ab) a gas carrier;”.

5. Section 81 amended (restriction on use of certain engines)

Section 81(2)—

Repeal

Section 6

“Class III vessel that falls within”

Substitute

“local vessel specified in”.

6. Schedule 1 amended (category of local vessels)

Schedule 1—

Repeal

“

hopper barge		*
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 ”

Substitute

“

gas carrier	*	
hopper barge		*

 ”.

7. Schedule 3 amended (provision of life-saving appliances)

Schedule 3, Chinese text, Part 1, section 7(1)(b)(ii)(A)—

Repeal

“岸”

Substitute

“船邊”.

8. Schedule 4 amended (fire protection and provision of fire-fighting apparatus)

Schedule 4, Part 2, after Table 6A—

Add

“Table 6B

Class II vessels—gas carriers

Type of vessel	Requirement
gas carrier	there must be on board the gas carrier fire-fighting apparatus for preventing, detecting and dealing with outbreaks of fire on board a vessel carrying liquefied gases in bulk

9. Schedule 5 amended (freeboard assignment)

Schedule 5, Part 1, after the following—

“

floating workshop	HKW	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
	RTL	not permitted	not permitted	not permitted	not permitted

”

Add

“

gas carrier	HKW	HKLLC	HKLLC	HKLLC	HKLLC
	RTL	HKLLC	HKLLC	not permitted	not permitted

”

10. Schedule 6 substituted

Schedule 6—

Repeal the Schedule
Substitute

“Schedule 6

[ss. 81 & 87]

Local Vessels to which Section 81(1) of this Regulation Does Not Apply

Part 1

Class II Vessels

1. A Class II vessel that—
 - (a) is not a gas carrier;
 - (b) is fitted with an engine that uses gaseous fuel;
and
 - (c) is constructed and equipped for the safe use of
gaseous fuel.

2. A Class II vessel that—
 - (a) is a gas carrier;
 - (b) is fitted with an engine that uses gaseous fuel;
and
 - (c) is constructed and equipped for the safe
carrying of liquefied gases in bulk.

Part 2

Class III Vessels

3. A Class III vessel that falls within paragraph (a) of
Schedule 2.

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4. A Class III vessel that—
- (a) is made of glass reinforced plastic;
 - (b) is of less than 15 m in length;
 - (c) has a total engine power not exceeding—
 - (i) for a vessel of 5 m or more but less than 6 m in length—30 kW;
 - (ii) for a vessel of 6 m or more but less than 8 m in length—56 kW; or
 - (iii) for a vessel of 8 m or more but less than 15 m in length—67 kW; and
 - (d) is equipped with the following life-saving appliances and fire-fighting apparatus, all of which are in good and serviceable condition—
 - (i) at least 1 lifejacket for every person on board;
 - (ii) at least 1 lifebuoy;
 - (iii) for a vessel of less than 8 m in length—at least 1 portable dry powder fire extinguisher that has a capacity of not less than 2.7 kg of dry powder, and 1 fire bucket that is fitted with a lanyard; and
 - (iv) for a vessel of 8 m or more in length—at least 2 portable dry powder fire extinguishers, each of capacity of not less than 2.7 kg of dry powder, and 2 fire buckets, each fitted with a lanyard.”.

11. Schedule 7 amended (local vessels required to comply with requirements of Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations (Cap. 413 sub. leg. A))

Schedule 7, after the following—

“floating workshop (including repair pontoon, welding barge)”	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
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Add

“gas carrier”	of any tonnage	of any tonnage	—	—”
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LAM Sai-hung
Secretary for Transport and
Logistics

8 March 2023

Explanatory Note

This Regulation amends the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Safety and Survey) Regulation (Cap. 548 sub. leg. G) (**Cap. 548G**) mainly to—

- (a) subject gas carriers to the requirements relating to survey records of safety equipment under Division 2 of Part 5 of Cap. 548G;
- (b) subject gas carriers to the requirements relating to automatic identification systems under section 80A of Cap. 548G;
- (c) provide that the restriction on the use of certain engines under section 81(1) of Cap. 548G does not apply to—
 - (i) certain Class II vessels (not being a gas carrier but fitted with an engine that uses gaseous fuel) that are constructed and equipped for the safe use of gaseous fuel; or
 - (ii) certain gas carriers that are constructed and equipped for the safe carrying of liquefied gases in bulk;
- (d) specify that gas carriers are Category A vessels;
- (e) add a new Table 6B to Part 2 of Schedule 4 to Cap. 548G to prescribe the requirements relating to fire-fighting apparatus for gas carriers;
- (f) subject gas carriers to the requirements relating to Hong Kong load line certificates; and
- (g) require gas carriers to comply with the requirements of the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations (Cap. 413 sub. leg. A).