

Guidelines for the
Design and Construction of
Offshore Supply Vessels 2006



OFFSHORE SUPPLY VESSELS

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INTERNATIONAL
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Foreword

Guidelines for the design and construction of offshore supply vessels were adopted by the Assembly of the Organization in 1981 by resolution A.469(XII). These Guidelines included guidance on intact stability that was later incorporated into the Code on Intact Stability for all Types of Ships covered by IMO Instruments. To take account of the adoption of this Code and amendments to the SOLAS Convention that have entered into force after 1981, new Guidelines for the design and construction of offshore supply vessels were adopted in 2006. These new Guidelines also include a form of Document of Compliance for offshore supply vessels.

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Guidelines for the design and construction of offshore supply vessels, 2006

Preamble

1 These Guidelines have been developed for the design and construction of new offshore supply vessels with a view to promoting the safety of such vessels and their personnel, recognizing the unique design features and service characteristics of these vessels.

2 These Guidelines furthermore provide a standard of safety equivalent to the relevant requirements of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended, and in particular to the stability criteria of the Code on Intact Stability for all Types of Ships Covered by IMO Instruments (IS Code), as amended.

3 Recognizing that, for certain limited areas of operation and service characteristics, it is unreasonable to apply these Guidelines in full, the possibility of relaxations has been introduced by the concept of “near-coastal voyage”.

4 Provisions for offshore supply vessels carrying more than 12 industrial personnel are not included in these Guidelines.

5 When an offshore supply vessel is used for special purposes, such as diving assistance or oceanographic surveys, the persons on board in connection with these special purposes should be treated as special personnel.

6 The content of these Guidelines was reviewed in 2006 in order to update the references contained therein, to enhance subdivision and damage stability requirements, to remove duplication of the content between the Guidelines and the IS Code, and to introduce an appropriate documentation of compliance with the Guidelines.