
Seafish Construction Standards: Re-boarding ladders

This notice should be read in conjunction with the Seafish Construction Standards (September 2012 edition). Where information in this notice contradicts the Standards, this notice is to take priority.

Date of effect: 28th August 2013

Summary

This Seafish Information Note provides an amendment to the Seafish Construction Standards for New Fishing Vessels Less than 15m length overall, in relation to re-boarding ladders. The Note replaces section 11.11.6 of the Standards.

Re-boarding ladders

With reference to Section 11.11 of the Seafish Construction Standards for vessels less than 15m length overall, the following amendments shall apply in relation to re-boarding ladders.

- 1) All vessels are to be fitted with a permanently mounted re-boarding ladder that can be deployed from a man overboard position (ie. it must be possible to deploy the ladder from in the water). The ladder is to be capable of extending from the gunwale/bulwark top to 600mm below the waterline.
- 2) The re-boarding ladder should be of firm construction and fit for purpose. Rope and webbing ladders will only be accepted as re-boarding ladders if they are of a type approved by the MCA or a classification society. All ladders are required to be permanently fixed to the vessel.
- 3) The re-boarding ladder may be made up of more than one construction type to achieve the full extension required for boarding. For example, an extending ladder may be fitted in conjunction with fixed rungs or hand holds in the bulwark. In all cases, the ladder must enable a person to board the vessel from a man overboard position.

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Published August 2013