



Ref. T4/3.01

MSC/Circ.1138  
16 December 2004

**INTERPRETATION TO THE GUIDELINES FOR DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND  
OPERATION OF PASSENGER SUBMERSIBLE CRAFT**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-ninth session (1 to 10 December 2004), following the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment, at its forty-seventh session, approved an interpretation to paragraph 2.2.3 (Viewports in passenger submersible craft) of the Guidelines for design, construction and operation of passenger submersible craft, set out in the annex, with a view to ensuring a uniform approach towards the application of the above Guidelines.

2 Member Governments are invited to use the annexed interpretation when applying relevant provisions of the Guidelines for design, construction and operation of passenger submersible craft, and to bring it to the attention of all parties concerned.

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**ANNEX****UNIFIED INTERPRETATION TO THE GUIDELINES FOR DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION  
AND OPERATION OF PASSENGER SUBMERSIBLE CRAFT****Paragraph 2.2.3 - Viewports in passenger submersible craft**

Acrylic viewports should be designed, fabricated and maintained in accordance with the requirements of the latest edition of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Safety Standard for Pressure Vessels for Human Occupancy (ASME PVHO), Section 2, Viewports and Section 3, Window Fabricators. Other standards and materials may be accepted by the Administration, provided they achieve an equivalent level of safety with respect to design, fabrication and maintenance.

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