



Seafish Construction Standards: Flush hatches

This notice should be read in conjunction with the Seafish Construction Standards (Release 2, April 2006). Where information in this notice contradicts the Standards, this notice is to take priority.

Date of effect: 1st July 2009

Summary

This Seafish Information Note provides an amendment to the Seafish Construction Standards in relation to flush hatches aboard new fishing vessels less than 15m length overall. The Note replaces paragraph 3.1.10 of the Standards.

Flush hatches

With reference to Section 3.1 of the Seafish Construction Standards for new fishing vessels less than 15m length overall, the following amendments shall apply:

- 1) Flush deck hatches over engine spaces and holds etc., are to be rigid in construction and secured by positive means such as recessed dog clips, and fitted with drainage arrangements from recessed channels. Drain pipes are to be led to discharge at ship sides and are to be fitted with automatic non-return valves. A permanent notice is to be fitted on the hatch or in a visible location in close proximity stating "Hatch not to be opened at sea."
- 2) Where drain pipes are to be led from the recessed channels of flush hatches to discharge at ship sides, the following exemptions will be permitted with regard to the requirement for the fitting of automatic non-return valves and shut-off valves:
 - (i) The automatic non-return valve may be omitted if the drain pipe is 25mm in diameter or less. However, a shut-off valve must be fitted at the hull side and must be easily accessible.
 - (ii) Both the automatic non-return valve and shut-off valve may be omitted if the discharge is located higher than 300mm above the waterline and the drain pipe is of equivalent material and thickness to that of the hull,

permanently moulded in place without separable joints, and with an inside diameter of at least 40mm.

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