

Document 3

REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

PORT AND NAVIGATION AUTHORITIES

SUBDEPARTMENT OF SHIP SAFETY

DEPARTMENT OF REGULATIONS

Paris, 9 May 1990

DPNM/No 875/90
SN1

Subject : GM-METER manufactured by the company SEPAC.

Reference : Your letter TEC/CAZ/900012 dated January 17, 1990

Dear Sir,

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the test report containing information on the test performance of the GM-METER device, manufactured by the company SEPAC, and successfully tested on board the car ferry "COTE D'AZUR" from the 1-15/12/89.

In view of the fact that the GM can be measured four minutes after the departure of the ship and that the measured GM value corresponds approximately to the calculated value (the true value of the measurement lies within approximately 10% of the measured value), I beg to inform you that I authorise the use of the GM-METER manufactured by the company SEPAC as a proven means to determine ship stability according to the terms of paragraph 7.4 of provision 8 of the SOLAS Convention, amended by resolution MSC 12 (56) and adopted on 28/10/88.

Yours faithfully,

Director of Port and Navigation Authorities

Signed: Thierry LEHUERDU KERISEL

SEALINK FERRIES-SNCF
Service de l'Armement Naval
For the attention of the
Head of the Technical Department
3 rue Ambroise Paré
75475 PARIS CEDEX 10

REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

OFFICE OF NAVAL AFFAIRS

PORT AND NAVIGATION AUTHORITIES

SUBDEPARTMENT OF SHIP SAFETY

DEPARTMENT OF REGULATIONS

PARIS, 28 October 1991

SN1/DPNM/No 1294/91

The Honorable Secretary-General,

I would be grateful if you could send the enclosed letter of the French Government with regard to the approved use of the device GM-METER SEPAC as a means to determine ship stability pursuant to paragraph 7.4 of provision 8 laid down in chapter II of the amended SOLAS 74/78 Convention to other contracting governments for the information of the competent government officials.

I beg to remain,

The Honorable Secretary-General of IMO

4 Albert Embankment
London SE1 7SR
(Great Britain)

**CERTIFICATE OF APPROVED USE BY VIRTUE OF PARAGRAPH 7.4 OF
PROVISION 8 AS LAID DOWN IN CHAPTER II OF THE SOLAS CONVENTION
74/78.**

FRENCH DECLARATION

1. Having regard to the terms of provision 5 laid down in Chapter I of the 74/78 SOLAS Convention, the French Government informs the organisation that by virtue of paragraph 7.4 of provision 8 laid down in Chapter II of the Convention and duly amended by resolution MSC 12 (56) adopted on 28 October 1988, it has approved the use of the measuring device GM-METER manufactured in France by the company SEPAC as a means of determining the stability of passenger ships prior to departure.

2- The GM-METER is a device which determines the global GM value from the ship's natural rolling period with the aid of a built-in inclinometer. An automatic analysis is carried out for a period of three minutes in order to identify the natural rolling period.

3- Measurements should be taken immediately after departure or at berth provided that residual motions are sufficient and the ramp has been drawn in. The first results are obtained after three minutes. Subsequently, updated values appear on the screen at five second intervals for a period of one minute. The entire procedure is completed when the final result flashes on the screen.

4 - Hydrostatic and geometrical ship characteristics, which are stored in the memory of the device, allow the GM value to be derived from the natural rolling period of the ship. The parameters used in these calculations are based on the mean draft value which is entered into the device immediately after it has been switched on.

If the GM value is measured while the ship is at berth, then the user should take the effect of the hawsers on ship motions into account by entering the height of the bollards above the water level.

5 - Appendices

- Report on the presentation of the GM-METER device by Mr. A. COTA (Association Technique Maritime et Aéronautique - Session 1985).

- Overview of the use of the GM-METER on board of passenger ferries by A. COTA (Association Technique Maritime et Aéronautique - Session 1991).

- Latest test report on the use of the GM-METER on board the passenger ferry "COTE D'AZUR" (12 January 1990).

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

4 Albert Embankment
London SE1 7SR

Ref: T1/2.08
VYS/jnt/3929x

Dear Sir,

I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter SN1/DPNM/No.1294/91 of 28 October 1991 addressed to the Secretary-General and the accompanying statement of the French Government with regard to the approved use of the GM-METER SEPAC device as a means of determining ship stability by virtue of paragraph 7.4 of provision II-1/8 of the SOLAS convention.

I thank you kindly for the information which will be sent to all member states in circular SLS.14. At the same time, I regret to inform you that the contents of the three documents referred to in paragraph 5 of the aforementioned letter cannot be attached to said circular in view of their volume. Instead of attaching these documents to the letter, a footnote will be added informing the reader that the documents are available at the OMI library.

Yours faithfully,

W.S. MORRISON
Head of the Naval Safety Department

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Assistant Director of Ship Safety
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