



**International Association of Drilling Contractors**

**Companion to the  
Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile  
Offshore Drilling Units, 2009**



The International Association of Drilling Contractors  
10370 Richmond Ave., Suite 760  
Houston, TX 77042

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# **International Association of Drilling Contractors**

## **Companion to the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units, 2009 providing a comparison to the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units, 1989 (as amended)**

### **Disclaimer**

This document is intended to provide information regarding the differences between the newly adopted Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units, 2009 (2009 MODU Code) and its predecessor, the 1989 MODU, as amended through 2001.

While IADC has made every effort to assure that the text presented is an accurate depiction of both the 2009 MODU Code and the 1989 MODU Code (as amended), readers should not rely on the text presented as representing authoritative text of either instrument. For regulatory purposes, only authoritative texts, recognized as such by the relevant Administrations, should be used.

### **Background**

In consideration of information received from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) regarding changes to its standards for helidecks (document MSC 79/22/3), the 79<sup>th</sup> session of International Maritime Organization's (IMO's) Maritime Safety Committee agreed to include a new work item on "Amendments to the MODU Code" in the work program of the Ship Design and Equipment Sub-Committee (DE) and the provisional agenda for its 49<sup>th</sup> session (DE 49).

In response to the IMO's initiative, the International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC) convened a Working Group of interested drilling contractor representatives with the goal of developing a proposal for amendments to the MODU Code. The Working Group sought to develop this proposal based upon: Identified shortcomings in the 1989 MODU Code; Amendments to the SOLAS and Load Line Conventions; Guidance issued by the IMO in the form of circulars and resolutions; and Guidance issued by the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS). It was quickly decided that the Group should be expanded to allow participation by any interested party including representatives of flag and coastal State governments, classification societies, designers and shipyards, and oil companies. Ultimately, this comprised nearly 80 individuals.

Working both through meetings and correspondence, the Group developed an extensive Proposal for amendments to the MODU Code which was submitted jointly by Liberia, the Marshall Islands, Vanuatu and IADC for consideration at DE 49. The Sub-Committee also considered two documents addressing related issues associated with the application of the Load Line Convention to MODUs submitted by IADC (document SLF 48/9) and IACS (document SLF 48/9/2).

At DE 49, the Sub-Committee agreed to form a Correspondence Group, coordinated by Liberia, to further develop the proposed amendments to the MODU Code. The Correspondence Group, coordinated by Liberia, was comprised of 34 participants from 11 Administrations, IADC and IACS. IADC provided secretariat services for the Group.

The Report of the Correspondence Group (document DE 50/11) was submitted to the DE Sub-Committee' 50<sup>th</sup> session (DE 50). Also considered by the Sub-Committee at this session were two proposals by IADC regarding helicopter facilities (document DE 50/11/1) and portable fire extinguishers (DE 50/11/2). A Drafting Group was formed by the Sub-Committee and considered these documents, along with comments made in plenary, and prepared a report (DE 51/7) for consideration by DE at its 51<sup>st</sup> session. The Sub-Committee also referred relevant provisions of the draft amendments to the Code to the Sub-Committee on Stability and Load Lines and Fishing Vessels Safety (SLF), the Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue (COMSAR), and the Sub-Committee on Fire Protection (FP). At the conclusion of the session, the Correspondence Group was re-established under the coordination of Liberia to continue development of the draft amendments to the Code. IADC again provided secretariat services to the Group.

At the Sub-Committee's 51<sup>st</sup> session (DE 51), the Sub-Committee considered the report of the last session's Drafting Group (document DE 51/7), the report of the outcome of SLF's deliberations (document DE 51/7/1), the report of the Correspondence Group (DE 51/7/2), a submission by China on machinery space ventilation (document DE 51/7/3), a variety of proposals by IADC (document DE 51/7/4), as well as discussions of the draft Code in its plenary session. To facilitate further development of the draft Code, a Working Group was established by the Sub-Committee. The Working Group's report was published as document DE 51/WP.4.

Relevant provisions of the draft MODU Code were considered by SLF at its 48<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> sessions and COMSAR at its 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> sessions. FP held extensive discussions on the draft Code at its 53<sup>rd</sup> session and established a Drafting Group which addressed not only fire safety issues, but also considered matters associated helicopter installations and operations based on information provided by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The report of this Working Group was published as document FP 53/WP.6.

At the DE Sub-Committee's 52<sup>nd</sup> session (DE 52), the Sub-Committee considered the draft revised code prepared by the drafting group at DE 51 (document DE 51/WP.4), a draft consolidated text prepared by the Secretariat (document DE 52/5), a proposal by the United States regarding electrical standards (document DE 52/5/1), a proposal by China regarding machinery installations and electrical standards (document DE 52/5/2), a paper by IADC addressing various aspects of the draft Code (document DE 52/5/3), and a report from COMSAR and FP (document DE 52/5/4). Having considered these documents, the Sub-Committee agreed to the draft revised Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units, 2009, for submission to the Maritime Safety Committee's 86<sup>th</sup> session for approval and to the 26<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly for Adoption (document DE 52/21/Add.1, Annex 2).

At its 86<sup>th</sup> session, the Maritime Safety Committee considered the draft Code prepared by DE as well as a submission by IADC (document MSC 86/12/3) suggesting additional amendments to the draft Code. The Committee subsequently approved the Code for submission to the Assembly for adoption (documents MSC 86/26 and MSC 86/21/Add.1, Annex 14). The Committee also approved a new work programme item for the DE Sub-Committee on "Revision of the provisions for helicopter facilities in SOLAS and the MODU

Code” based upon information received from ICAO regarding changes to their helideck standards.

At its 26<sup>th</sup> session, the Assembly considered the report of the Maritime Safety Committee’s 86<sup>th</sup> session (documents MSC 86/26 and MSC 86/26/Add.1) and by Resolution A.1023(26), adopted the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units, 2009 (2009 MODU Code) on 2 December 2009.

## Explanatory Notes to the Companion Document

Text added to the 1989 MODU Code (as amended) to produce the 2009 MODU Code is shown as **shaded text**. Text deleted from the 1989 MODU Code (as amended) to produce the 2009 MODU Code is shown with **strikethrough**.

An explanation for substantive changes between the editions of the Code is provided in the endnotes. Endnotes are identified by chapter in numerical order, e.g. “**1-1**”.

Simple renumbering of sections or paragraphs and simple editorial changes are identified only by shaded text and strikethrough, as appropriate.

As a non-mandatory instrument, it was decided (DE 49/20, paragraph 14.4) that mandatory language should not be used within the Code. Changes associated with removing mandatory language from the Code are identified as indicated above, supplemented with this mark: **ψ**

## Deliberative Documents

A large number of documents were considered within the IMO organization during the development of the 2009 MODU Code. As these documents often provide insight into the reasoning behind the changes between the editions of the Code, copies are included on the compact disk containing the official version of the IADC Companion to the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units, 2009. The following is a list of documents that were issued in support of the development of the 2009 MODU Code (Internet connection needed to access links in left column):

Document number	Date	Title
<a href="#">MSC 79/22/3</a>	20 July 2004	Amendments to Annex 14 – Aerodromes – to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Secretariat)
<a href="#">MSC 79/22/9</a>	27 September 2004	Amendments to Annex 14 – Aerodromes – to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (IADC)
<a href="#">Resolution MSC 187(79)</a>	9 December 2004	Adoption of amendments to the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (MODU Code)
<a href="#">MSC 79/23</a>	15 December 2004	Report of the Maritime Safety Committee on its Seventy-Ninth Session
<a href="#">SLF 48/9</a>	8 July 2005	Consideration of unique hull form characteristics of self-elevating MODUs (IADC)
<a href="#">SLF 48/9/2</a>	8 July 2005	Proposed corrections based on experience gained on the application of the technical regulations (IACS)

Document number	Date	Title
<a href="#">SLF 48/9/Corr.1</a>	20 September 2005	Consideration of unique hull form characteristics of self-elevating MODUs – Corrigenda (IADC)
<a href="#">SLF 48/21</a>	26 September 2005	Report to the Maritime Safety Committee (of the Sub-Committee on Stability and Load Lines and Fishing Vessels Safety)
<a href="#">DE 49/14</a>	18 November 2005	Proposal for amendments to the MODU Code (Liberia, the Marshall Islands, Vanuatu and IADC)
<a href="#">DE 49/14/1</a>	20 December 2005	Outcome of SLF 48 – Amendments to the MODU Code (Secretariat)
<a href="#">DE 49/20</a>	8 March 2006	Report to the Maritime Safety Committee (of the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment)
<a href="#">DE 50/11</a>	27 November 2006	Report of the intersessional Correspondence Group on Amendments to the MODU Code (Liberia)
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.216(82)</a>	8 December 2006	Adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended
<a href="#">DE 50/11/1</a>	14 December 2006	Helideck visual aids and operational information (IADC)
<a href="#">DE 50/11/2</a>	14 December 2006	Recommended number and distribution of portable fire extinguishers (IADC)
<a href="#">Circular MSC.1/Circ.1212</a>	15 December 2006	Guidelines on alternative design and arrangements for SOLAS Chapters II-1 and III
<a href="#">DE 50/11/3</a>	12 January 2007	Harmonization of life-saving provisions with amendments to SOLAS and the LSA Code (United States)
<a href="#">COMSAR 11/18</a>	12 March 2007	Report to the Maritime Safety Committee (of the Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue)
<a href="#">SLF 50/2/1</a>	19 March 2007	Outcome of FP 51 and DE 50 (Secretariat)
<a href="#">DE 50/27</a>	16 April 2007	Report to the Maritime Safety Committee (of the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment)
<a href="#">DE 51/7</a>	23 April 2007	Report of the Drafting Group at DE 50 (part 2) (Chairman of the Drafting Group)
<a href="#">SLF 50/WP.4</a>	3 May 2007	Report of the Informal Group (Chairman of the Drafting Group)
<a href="#">SLF 50/19</a>	21 May 2007	Report to the Maritime Safety Committee (of the Sub-Committee on Stability and Load Lines and Fishing Vessels Safety)
<a href="#">DE 51/7/1</a>	18 June 2007	Outcome of SLF 50 (Secretariat)
<a href="#">DE 51/7/2</a>	15 October 2007	Report of the intersessional correspondence group (Liberia)
<a href="#">DE 51/7/3</a>	15 October 2007	Comments on draft amendments to the MODU Code (China)
<a href="#">DE 51/5/3</a>	27 December 2007	Comments on the report of the Correspondence Group on the review of the Special Purpose Ship Code (IADC)

Document number	Date	Title
<a href="#">DE 51/7/4</a>	27 December 2007	Comments on the report of the Correspondence Group on Amendments to the MODU Code (IADC)
<a href="#">DE 51/2/2</a>	21 January 2008	Outcome of FP 52
<a href="#">DE 51/WP.4</a>	20 February 2008	Report of the working group at DE 51
<a href="#">COMSAR 12/3/7</a>	25 February 2008	Outcome of DE 51 – Amendments to the MODU Code (Secretariat)
<a href="#">DE 51/28</a>	12 March 2008	Report to the Maritime Safety Committee (of the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment)
<a href="#">COMSAR 12/15</a>	25 April 2008	Report to the Maritime Safety Committee (of the Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue)
<a href="#">Circular MSC.1/Circ.1275</a>	3 June 2008	Unified interpretation of SOLAS Chapter II-2 on the number and arrangement of portable fire extinguishers on board ships
<a href="#">DE 52/5</a>	5 November 2008	Consolidated text of the draft revised MODU Code (Secretariat)
<a href="#">FP 53/22/1</a>	14 November 2008	Outcome of DE 51 – Amendments to the MODU Code (Secretariat)
<a href="#">DE 52/5/1</a>	3 December 2008	Comments on the consolidated text of the draft revised MODU Code (China)
<a href="#">DE 52/5/2</a>	9 January 2009	Consolidated text of the MODU Code (IADC)
<a href="#">DE 52/5/3</a>	15 January 2009	Comments on the report of the working group (United States)
<a href="#">FP 53/WP.6</a>	18 February 2009	Report of the drafting group
<a href="#">DE 52/5/4</a>	23 February 2009	Outcome of COMSAR 12 and FP 53 (Secretariat)
<a href="#">FP 53/23</a>	27 March 2009	Report to the Maritime Safety Committee (of the Sub-Committee on Fire Protection)
<a href="#">MSC 86/12/3</a>	8 April 2009	Amendments to the MODU Code (IADC)
<a href="#">DE 52/21</a>	14 April 2009	Report to the Maritime Safety Committee (of the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment)
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.282(86)</a>	5 June 2009	Adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended
<a href="#">Circular MSC.1/Circ.1206/Rev.1</a>	11 June 2009	Measures to prevent accidents with lifeboats
<a href="#">Circular MSC.1/Circ.1326</a>	11 June 2009	Clarification of SOLAS regulation III/19
<a href="#">MSC 86/26</a>	12 June 2009	Report of the Maritime Safety Committee on its Eighty-Sixth Session
<a href="#">MSC 86/26/Add.1</a>	12 June 2009	Report of the Maritime Safety Committee on its Eighty-Sixth Session
<a href="#">Resolution A.1021(26)</a>	18 January 2010	Code on alerts and indicators, 2009
<a href="#">Resolution A.1023(26)</a>	18 January 2010	Code for the construction and equipment of mobile offshore drilling units, 2009 (MODU Code)



## Reference Documents

Document number	Date	Title
<a href="#">Resolution A.414(XI)</a>	15 November 1979	Code for the Construction and equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units
<a href="#">Resolution A.525(13)</a>	17 November 1983	Performance standards for narrow-band direct-printing telegraph equipment for the reception of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships
<a href="#">Resolution A.570(14)</a>	20 November 1985	Type approval of ship earth stations
<a href="#">Resolution A.601(15)</a>	17 November 1987	Provision and display of manoeuvring information on board ships
<a href="#">Resolution A.644(16)</a>	19 October 1989	Performance standards for enhanced group call equipment
<a href="#">Resolution A.649(16)</a>	19 October 1989	Code for the Construction and equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units, 1989
<a href="#">Resolution A.650(16)</a>	19 October 1989	An example of alternative intact stability criteria for twin-pontoon column-stabilized semisubmersible units
<a href="#">Resolution A.651(16)</a>	19 October 1989	An example of alternative stability criteria for a range of positive stability after damage or flooding for column-stabilized semisubmersible units
<a href="#">Resolution A.653(16)</a>	19 October 1989	Recommendation on improved fire test procedures for surface flammability of bulkhead, ceiling and deck finishes
<a href="#">Resolution A.662(16)</a>	19 October 1989	Performance standards for float-free release and activation arrangements for emergency radio equipment
<a href="#">Resolution A.664(16)</a>	19 October 1989	Performance standards for enhanced group call equipment
<a href="#">Resolution A.694(17)</a>	6 November 1991	General requirements for shipborne radio equipment forming part of the global maritime distress and safety system (GMDSS) and for electronic navigational aids
<a href="#">Resolution A.696(17)</a>	6 November 1991	Type approval of satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs) operating in the COSPAS-SARSAT system)



Document number	Date	Title
<a href="#">Resolution A.699(17)</a>	6 November 1991	System performance standard for the promulgation and co-ordination of maritime safety information using high-frequency narrow-band direct printing
<a href="#">Resolution A.706(17)</a>	6 November 1991	World-wide navigational warning service
<a href="#">Resolution A.760(18)</a>	4 November 1993	Symbols related to life-saving appliances and arrangements
<a href="#">Resolution A.771(18)</a>	4 November 1993	Training requirements for crews of fast rescue boats
<a href="#">Circular MSC/Circ.645</a>	6 June 1994	Guidelines for vessels with dynamic positioning systems
<a href="#">Resolution A.802(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for survival craft radar transponders for use in search and rescue operations
<a href="#">Resolution A.803(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for Inmarsat ship earth stations capable of two-way communications
<a href="#">Resolution A.804(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for shipborne MF radio installations capable of voice communications and digital selective calling
<a href="#">Resolution A.805(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for float-free VHF emergency position-indicating radio beacons
<a href="#">Resolution A.806(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for shipborne MF/HF radio installations capable of voice communications and digital selective calling
<a href="#">Resolution A.807(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for Inmarsat-C ship earth stations capable of transmitting and receiving direct-printing communications
<a href="#">Resolution A.808(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for ship earth stations capable of two-way communication
<a href="#">Resolution A.809(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for survival craft two-way radiotelephone apparatus
<a href="#">Resolution A.810(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for float-free satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs) operating on 406 MHz
<a href="#">Resolution A.811(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for a shipborne integrated radiocommunication system (IRCS) when used in the GMDSS

Document number	Date	Title
<a href="#">Resolution A.812(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Performance standards for float-free satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacons operating through the geostationary Inmarsat satellite system on 1.6GHz
<a href="#">Resolution A.813(19)</a>	23 November 1995	General requirements for electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) for all electrical and electronic ship's equipment
<a href="#">Resolution A.831(19)</a>	23 November 1995	Code of safety for diving systems, 1995
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.47(66)</a>	6 June 1996	Adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.48(66)</a>	6 June 1996	Adoption of the International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code
<a href="#">Circular MSC/Circ.737</a>	28 June 1996	Guidelines for anchoring systems for MODUs
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.57(67)</a>	5 December 1996	Adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.68(68)</a>	6 June 1997	Adoption of amendments to performance standards for shipborne radiocommunication equipment
<a href="#">Resolution A.864(20)</a>	27 November 1997	Recommendations for entering enclosed spaces aboard ships
<a href="#">Resolution A.868(20)</a>	27 November 1997	Guidelines for the control and management of ships' ballast water to minimize the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens
<a href="#">Circular MSC/Circ.834</a>	9 January 1998	Guidelines for engine-room layout, design and arrangement
<a href="#">Circular MSC/Circ.850</a>	8 June 1998	Guidelines for the maintenance and inspection of fire-protection systems and appliances
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.82/(70)</a>	11 December 1998	Amendments to resolution A.760(18) on symbols related to life-saving appliances and arrangements
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.80/(70), annex 1</a>	18 December 1998	Performance standards for on-scene (aeronautical) two-way portable VHF radiotelephone apparatus
<a href="#">Circular MSC/Circ.884</a>	21 December 1998	Guidelines for safe ocean towing
<a href="#">Resolution A.891(21)</a>	25 November 1999	Recommendations on training of personnel on mobile offshore units
<a href="#">Resolution A.895(21)</a>	25 November 1999	Anti-fouling systems used on ships

Document number	Date	Title
<a href="#">Circular MSC/Circ.955</a>	23 June 2000	Servicing of life-saving appliances and Radiocommunication equipment under the harmonized system of survey and certification (HSSC)
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.98(73)</a>	5 December 2000	Adoption of the International Code for Fire Safety Systems
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.120(74)</a>	31 May 2001	Adoption of amendments to performance standards for float free satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs) operating on 406 MHz (resolution A.810(19))
<a href="#">Resolution A.918(22)</a>	25 January 2002	IMO standard marine communication phrases
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.130(75)</a>	21 May 2002	Performance standards for Inmarsat ship earth stations capable of two-way communications
<a href="#">Circular MSC/Circ.1046</a>	28 May 2002	Guidelines for the assessment of thermal protection
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.134(76)</a>	12 December 2002	Adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.150(77)</a>	2 June 2003	Recommendation for material safety data sheets (MSDS) for MARPOL Annex I cargoes and marine fuel oils
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.148(77)</a>	3 June 2003	Adoption of the revised performance standards for narrow-band direct-printing telegraph equipment for the reception of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships (NAVTEX)
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.143(77)</a>	5 June 2003	Adoption of amendments to the Protocol of 1988 relating to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966
<a href="#">Resolution A.951(23)</a>	5 December 2003	Improved guidelines for marine portable fire extinguishers
<a href="#">Resolution A.962(23)</a>	5 December 2003	IMO guidelines on ship recycling
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.170(79)</a>	9 December 2004	Adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended
<a href="#">Resolution MSC.187(79)</a>	9 December 2004	Adoption of amendments to the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (MODU Code)