

Submission: **SR29-07**

Offshore Special Regulations – 4.15

Requirement for Emergency Rudders

A submission from the Chairman of Offshore Committee
(on behalf of the working party)

Proposal:

Delete Interpretation Number 1/2004

4.15 Emergency Steering

4.15.1 Emergency steering shall be provided as follows:

a) except when the principal method of steering is by means of an unbreakable tiller, an emergency tiller capable of being fitted to the rudder stock;

MoMu0,1,2,3

b) Crew **members shall** ~~must~~ be aware of alternative methods of steering the yacht in any sea condition in the event of rudder loss. At least one method must have been proven to work on board the yacht. An inspector may require that this method be demonstrated.

Mo~~Mu~~0,1,2,3,4
Mu0,1,2,3,4

c) The boat shall be fitted with an emergency rudder system independent of the boat's primary steering system. Boats that are fitted with two entirely separate steering systems where either system is capable on its own of steering the boat need not have a dedicated emergency rudder system provided the rudders can in the event of an emergency be isolated and operated independently

Mo0,1

4.15.2 An independent emergency rudder system is recommended

Mo3,4
Mu0,1,2,3,4

Current Position:

~~**INTERPRETATION No 1/2004 – Emergency Rudders**~~

~~**Question 1**~~

~~**Does OSP 4.15 Emergency Steering require an emergency rudder?**~~

~~**Answer 1**~~

~~Not necessarily. The emphasis in 4.15.1 (b) is for an effective alternative method of steering to be devised and tested by the yacht so that a method is developed which is most suitable for each particular yacht and crew.~~

~~Question 2~~

~~A monohull yacht has a rudder and steering system forward and another rudder and steering system aft. How must she comply with 4.15 Emergency Steering?~~

~~Answer 2~~

~~In a monohull yacht with two entirely separate steering systems where either system is capable on its own of steering the yacht in all sea conditions,~~

~~(i) the spare tiller envisaged in OSR 4.15 (a) is not required but is recommended unless an unbreakable metal tiller is installed as part of one of the separate steering systems and~~

~~(ii) one of the separate steering systems may be counted as the alternative steering method defined in OSR 4.15.1 (b).~~

Reason:

The proposal is to delete the interpretation and incorporate the interpretation as an amendment.

The following changes are also proposed in addition to including the interpretation:

- 1) recommendation clearly stating a preference for an emergency rudder system
- 2) Emergency rudders system are the only way to control a vessel for long periods and therefore should be mandatory for oceanic races e.g. category 0,1

(multihulls should be given more detailed considered of the consequence)

Secretariat Notes

The minutes of the 2007 Offshore Committee / Special Regulations SC state the following:

6b OSR Interpretation 2 – Emergency Rudders

Submission SR29-07 was received from the Chairman of the Offshore Committee

Recommendation to the Offshore Committee: Reject

Offshore Committee Decision: Defer

The submission above is a redrafted version of the original after consultation with the Chairman and various committee members.