

Measured length of inflatable and rigid inflatable boats and their all-metal equivalents

Background

Maritime Safety Queensland measures the length of commercial ships and fishing ships using the definition of length agreed to in the Uniform Shipping Laws Code.

The length is important as it is the basis for safety equipment, registration and licensing requirements. The code provides guidance material that covers the various vessel configurations. However new situations will arise from time to time which is why the final determination on the interpretation of the guidance material is up to the marine administration.

Recent enquiries have focused on the correct way to determine the measured length of inflatable, rigid inflatable boats, and their all-metal equivalents.

Determination

The guidance diagram for measured length in part B of the National Standard for Commercial Vessels shall be used to establish the measured

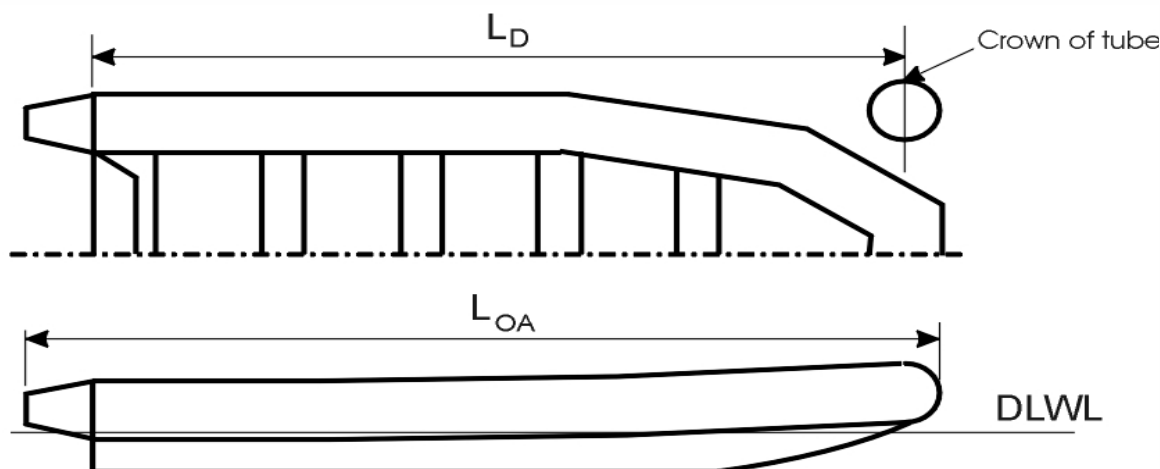
length of inflatable vessels, rigid inflatable vessels, and their all-metal equivalents.

Comments

Section 6 of the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2004* states that the length of a vessel means 'measured length within the meaning of section 1, part 2 of the code'. Here, the 'code' means the Uniform Shipping Laws Code.

On 1 October 2008, section 1 part 2 of the Uniform Shipping Laws Code was amended to apply the definition of measured length from clause 1.8 of part B of the National Standard for Commercial Vessels.

Part B of the National Standard for Commercial Vessels defines measured length in essentially the same way as section 1 part 2 of the code and also provides diagrams of L_D and L_{OA} for different vessel configurations. This includes clear, unambiguous guidance on what these lengths are for rigid inflatable boats.



References

- *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2004*
- National Standard for Commercial Vessels, Part B
- Uniform Shipping Laws Code

Information

For further information about this Marine Information Bulletin, email msqmail@msq.qld.gov.au.

Other Marine Information Bulletins covering various topics relating to the safe operation of ships can be obtained from Maritime Safety Queensland's website www.msq.qld.gov.au and from the following Maritime Safety Queensland regional offices:

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