

## CHAPTER III

### ENGINE DEPARTMENT

#### Regulation III/1

##### *Basic Principles to be Observed in Keeping an Engineering Watch*

1. Parties shall direct the attention of shipowners, ship operators, masters, chief engineer officers and watchkeeping personnel to the following principles which shall be observed to ensure that a safe engineering watch is maintained at all times.
2. The term "watch" is used in this Regulation to mean either a group of personnel composing the watch or a period of responsibility for an engineer officer during which his physical presence in the machinery space may or may not be required.
3. The basic principles, including but not limited to the following, shall be taken into account on all ships.
4. **General**
  - (a) The chief engineer officer of every ship is bound, in consultation with the master, to ensure that watchkeeping arrangements are adequate to maintain a safe watch. When deciding the composition of the watch, which may include appropriate engine room ratings, the following criteria, *inter alia*, shall be taken into account:
    - (i) type of ship;
    - (ii) type and condition of the machinery;
    - (iii) special modes of operation dictated by conditions such as weather, ice, contaminated water, shallow water, emergency conditions, damage containment of pollution abatement;
    - (iv) qualifications and experience of the watch;
    - (v) safety of life, ship, cargo and port, and protection of the environment;
    - (vi) observance of international, national and local regulations;
    - (vii) maintaining the normal operations of the ship.
  - (b) Under the direction of the chief engineer officer, the engineer officer in charge of the watch shall be responsible for the inspection, operation and testing, as required, of all machinery and equipment under his responsibility. The engineer officer in charge of a watch is the chief engineer officer's representative and his primary responsibility, at all times, shall be the safe and efficient operation and up-keep of machinery affecting the safety of the ship.
  - (c) The chief engineer officer shall, in consultation with the master, determine