# **TECH PAPER**

# RULES FOR COLREG 72, PART C RULE 24 TOWING AND PUSHING

Subject to change without prior notice TTP3294 REV. A 10.07.2017



## **RULE 24 TOWING AND PUSHING**

(a) A power-driven vessel when towing astern [InId] shall exhibit:

(i) Instead of the light prescribed in Rule 23(a)(i) or 23(a)(ii),two masthead lights in a vertical line. When the length of the tow, measuring from the stern of the towing vessel to the after end of the tow exceeds 200 meters, three such lights in a vertical line;

- (ii) sidelights;
- (iii) a sternlight;

(iiii) a towing light in a vertical line above the sternlight; and

(iiiii) when the length of the tow exceeds 200 meters, a diamond shape where it can best be seen.

(b) When a pushing vessel and a vessel being pushed ahead are rigidly connected in a composite unit they shall be regarded as a power-driven vessel and exhibit the lights prescribed in Rule 23. (pictures of a unit over 50m/ unit less than 50m)

(c) A power-driven vessel when pushing ahead or towing alongside, except [in the case of a composite unit / as required by paragraphs (b) and (i) of this Rule], shall exhibit:

- (i) instead of the light prescribed in Rule 23(a)(i) or 23(a)(ii), two masthead lights in a vertical line;
- (ii) sidelights; and
- iii) [a sternlight / two towing lights in a vertical line]

(d) A power-driven vessel to which paragraph (a) or (c) of this Rule apply shall also comply with rule 23(a)(i) [InId] and 23(a)(ii). (picture of vessel with tow 200m or less AND less than 50m in length / 50m or more in length)

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(e) A vessel or object being towed, other than those mentioned in paragraph (g) of this Rule, shall exhibit:

- (i) sidelights;
- (ii) a sternlight;

(iii) when the length of the tow exceeds 200 meters, a diamond shape where it can best be seen.

(f) Provided that any number of vessels being towed alongside or pushed in a group shall be lighted as one vessel, except as provided in paragraph (iii) [InId] (pictures of International and Inland configurations)

(i) a vessel being pushed ahead, not being part of a composite unit, shall exhibit at the forward end, side lights, and a special flashing light [InId];

 a vessel being towed alongside shall exhibit a stern light and at the forward end, sidelights, and a special flashing light [InId];

(iii) when vessels are towed alongside on both sides of the towing vessels a sternlight shall be exhibited on the stern of the outboard vessel on each side of the towing vessel, and a single set of sidelights as far forward an as far outboard as is practicable, and a single special flashing light [InId];

(g) An inconspicuous, partly submerged vessel or object, or combination of such vessels or objects being towed, [Intl] shall exhibit:

(iii) if it exceeds 100 meters in length, additional allround white lights between the lights prescribed in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) so that the distance be tween the lights shall not exceed 100 meters. Provided, that any vessels or objects being towed alongside each

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[InId];

other shall be lighted as one vessel or object

(iiii) a diamond shape at or near the aftermost extremity of the last vessel or object being towed and if the length of the tow exceeds 200 meters an additional diamond shape where it can best be seen and located as far forward as is practicable. [Intl]

(iiiii) the towing vessel may direct a searchlight in the direction of the tow to indicate its presence to an approaching vessel. [InId]

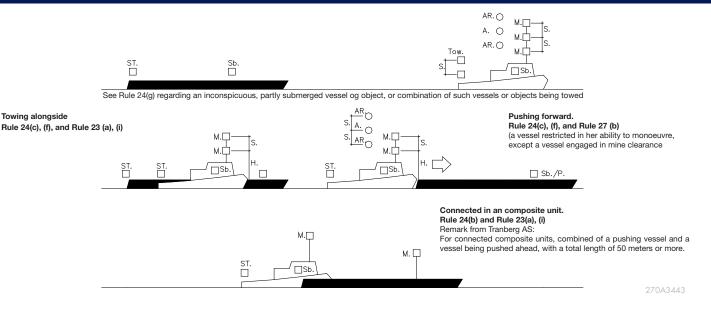
(h) When from any sufficient cause it is impracticable for a vessel or object being towed to exhibit the lights or shapes [Intl] prescribed in paragraph (e) or (g) of this Rule, all possible measures shall be taken to light the vessel or object being towed or at least indicate the presence of [such / unlighted] vessel or object.

## **POSITION OF LIGHTS**

(i) Notwithstanding paragraph (c), on the Western Rivers (except below the Huey P. Long Bridge on the Mississippi River) and on waters specified by the Secretary, a power-driven vessel when pushing ahead or towing alongside, except as paragraph (b) applies, shall exhibit:[InId]

- (i) sidelights; and [InId]
- (ii) two towing lights in a vertical line. [InId]

**(i/j)** Where from any sufficient cause it is impracticable for a vessel not normally engaged in towing operations to display the lights prescribed in paragraph (a), (c) or (i) [InId] of this Rule, such vessel shall not be required to exhibit those lights when engaged in towing another vessel in distress or otherwise in need of assistance. All possible measures shall be taken to indicate the nature of the relationship between the towing vessel and the vessel being towed as authorized by Rule 36, in particular by illuminating the [towline/tow].



### Vertical distance: S

Minimum 2 metres for vessel 20 metres in length or more. For vessel less than 20 metres in length, 1 meter.

#### Height H:

On a vessel of 20 metres in length or more the lowest masthead lantern shall, except where a towing light is required, be placed at a height of not less than 4 metres above the hull. On a vessel less than 20 metres in length the lowest masthead lantern shall, except where a towing light is required, be placed at a height of not less than 2 metres above the gunwale.

#### Lantern M:

One of the two or three masthead lanterns prescribed for a power-driven vessel, when engaged in towing or pushing another vessel, shall be placed in the same position as either the forward masthead lantern or the after masthead lantern, provided that, if carried on the aftermast, the lowest after masthead lantern shall be at least 4,5 metres vertically higher than the forward masthead lantern.

Description	Lantern type		Colour	Weight	Part No.
Lantern 2898 AL	Masthead	225°	White	0,74 kg.	2898 000
Lantern 2898 AL	Stern towing	135°	Yellow	0,74 kg.	2898 400
Lantern 2850 M	Masthead	225°	White	3,25 kg.	2850 002
Lantern 2850 ST.Y	Stern towing	135°	Yellow	3,25 kg.	2850 332
Lantern 2870 M	Masthead	225°	White	2,85 kg.	2870 001
Lantern 2850 ST.Y	Stern towing	135°	Yellow	2,85 kg.	2870 331



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