

TRACTATENBLAD

VAN HET

KONINKRIJK DER NEDERLANDEN

JAARGANG 2013 Nr. 81

A. TITEL

*Protocol van 1978 bij het Internationaal Verdrag voor de beveiliging van mensenlevens op zee, 1974;
(met Bijlage)
Londen, 17 februari 1978*

B. TEKST

De Engelse en de Franse tekst van het Protocol, met Bijlage, zijn geplaatst in *Trb.* 1978, 189.

Voor wijzigingen en verbeteringen van de Bijlage zie de rubrieken J van *Trb.* 1983, 174, *Trb.* 1985, 156 en *Trb.* 1991, 159.

Resolutie MSC.343(91) van 30 november 2012

Bij Resolutie MSC.343(91) heeft de Maritieme Veiligheidscommissie van de Internationale Maritieme Organisatie op 30 november 2012 in overeenstemming met artikel II van het Protocol juncto artikel VIII(b)(iv) van het Verdrag voor de beveiliging van mensenlevens op zee wijzigingen aangenomen. De Engelse tekst¹⁾ van de Resolutie en de wijzigingen luidt als volgt:

¹⁾ De Chinese, de Franse, de Russische en de Spaanse tekst zijn niet opgenomen.

Het voor eensluidend gewaarmerkt afschrift is nog niet ontvangen. In de tekst kunnen derhalve onjuistheden voorkomen, die in een volgend Tractatenblad zullen worden gecorrigeerd.

Resolution MSC.343(91)
(adopted on 30 November 2012)

**Adoption of amendments to the Protocol of 1978 relating to the
International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974**

The Maritime Safety Committee,

Recalling Article 28(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Committee,

Recalling also Article VIII(b) of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974 (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”) and the functions which the Protocol of 1978 relating to the Convention (hereinafter referred to as “the 1978 SOLAS Protocol”) confers upon the Maritime Safety Committee for the consideration and adoption of amendments to the 1978 SOLAS Protocol,

Recognizing the need to align the contents of the Forms of the Safety Construction Certificate and Safety Equipment Certificate for cargo ships set out in the appendix to the 1978 SOLAS Protocol with those in the Convention and the 1988 SOLAS Protocol,

Having considered, at its ninety-first session, amendments to the 1978 SOLAS Protocol proposed and circulated in accordance with Article VIII(b)(i) of the Convention and Article II of the 1978 SOLAS Protocol,

1. Adopts, in accordance with Article VIII(b)(iv) of the Convention and Article II of the 1978 SOLAS Protocol, amendments to the appendix to the annex to the 1978 SOLAS Protocol, the text of which is set out in the annex to the present resolution;
2. Determines, in accordance with Article VIII(b)(vi)(2)(bb) of the Convention and Article II of the 1978 SOLAS Protocol, that the said amendments shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 January 2014, unless, prior to that date, more than one third of the Parties to the 1978 SOLAS Protocol or Parties the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50 per cent of the gross tonnage of the world’s merchant fleet, have notified their objections to the amendments;
3. Invites the Parties concerned to note that, in accordance with Article VIII(b)(vii)(2) of the Convention and Article II of the 1978 SOLAS Protocol, the amendments shall enter into force on 1 July 2014, upon their acceptance in accordance with paragraph 2 above;
4. Requests the Secretary-General, in conformity with Article VIII(b)(v) of the Convention and Article II of the 1978 SOLAS Protocol, to transmit certified copies of the present resolution and the text of the amendments contained in the annex to all Parties to the 1978 SOLAS Protocol;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to transmit copies of this resolution and its annex to Members of the Organization, which are not Parties to the 1978 SOLAS Protocol.

Annex

Amendments to the Protocol of 1978 relating to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended

Annex

Modifications and additions to the Annex to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974

Appendix

The existing forms of the Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate and Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate are replaced by the following:

Form of safety construction certificate for cargo ships

CARGO SHIP SAFETY CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

(Official seal)

(State)

Issued under the provisions of the
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE
SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974, as modified by
the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto

under the authority of the Government of

(name of the State)

by

(person or organization authorized)

Particulars of ship¹⁾

Name of ship

Distinctive number or letters

Port of registry

Gross tonnage

Deadweight of ship (metric tons)²⁾

IMO Number³⁾

Type of ship⁴⁾

- Bulk carrier
- Oil tanker
- Chemical tanker
- Gas carrier
- Cargo ship other than any of the above

Date of build:

Date of building contract

Date on which keel was laid or ship was at similar stage of construction

Date of delivery

Date on which work for a conversion or an alteration or modification of a major character was commenced (where applicable)

All applicable dates shall be completed.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY:

1. That the ship has been surveyed in accordance with the requirements of regulation I/10 of the Convention.
2. That the survey showed that the condition of the structure, machinery and equipment as defined in the above regulation was satisfactory and the ship complied with the relevant requirements of chapters II-1 and II-2 of the Convention (other than those relating to fire safety systems and appliances and fire control plans).
3. That in implementing regulation I/6(b) the Government has instituted:
 - mandatory annual surveys;
 - unscheduled inspections.
4. That an Exemption Certificate has/has not⁴⁾ been issued.
5. The ship was/was not³⁾ subjected to an alternative design and arrangements in pursuance of regulation(s) II-1/55 / II-2/17⁴⁾ of the Convention.
6. A Document of approval of alternative design and arrangements for machinery and electrical installations/fire protection⁴⁾ is/is not⁴⁾ appended to this Certificate.

This certificate is valid until

Completion date of the survey on which this certificate is based:..... (dd/mm/yyyy)

Issued at
(Place of issue of certificate)

.....
(Date of issue)

.....
(Signature of authorized official
issuing the certificate)

(Seal or stamp of the issuing authority, as appropriate)

INTERMEDIATE SURVEY
(for tankers of 10 years of age and over)

This is to certify that at an intermediate survey required by regulation I/10 of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol, this ship was found to comply with relevant provisions of the Convention.

Signed:
(Signature of authorized official)

Place:

Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority,
as appropriate)

Signed:
(Signature of authorized official)

Place:

Date:

(Seal or stamp of the Authority,
as appropriate)

MANDATORY ANNUAL SURVEYS OR UNSCHEDULED INSPECTIONS

This is to certify that the ship has been surveyed in accordance with regulation I/6(b) of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol and the relevant recommendations of the Organization⁶⁾.

1st mandatory annual survey^{4),5)} Signed:
1st unscheduled inspection⁴⁾ Place:
Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority,
as appropriate)

2nd mandatory annual survey^{4),5)} Signed:
2nd unscheduled inspection⁴⁾ Place:
Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority,
as appropriate)

3rd mandatory annual survey^{4),5)} Signed:
3rd unscheduled inspection⁴⁾ Place:
Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority,
as appropriate)

4th mandatory annual survey^{4),5)} Signed:
4th unscheduled inspection⁴⁾ Place:
Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority,
as appropriate)

¹⁾ Alternatively, the particulars of the ship may be placed horizontally in boxes.

²⁾ For oil tankers, chemical tankers and gas carriers only.

³⁾ In accordance with the *IMO ship identification number scheme*, adopted by the Organization by resolution A.600(15).

⁴⁾ Delete as appropriate.

⁵⁾ An intermediate survey, but not an unscheduled inspection, may take the place of a mandatory annual survey.

Form of safety equipment certificate for cargo ships

CARGO SHIP SAFETY EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATE

This Certificate shall be supplemented by a Record of Equipment for Cargo Ship Safety
(Form E)

(Official seal)

(State)

Issued under the provisions of the
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE
SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974, as modified by
the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto

under the authority of the Government of

(name of the State)

by

(person or organization authorized)

Particulars of ship¹⁾

Name of ship

Distinctive number or letters

Port of registry

Gross tonnage

Deadweight of ship (metric tons)²⁾

Length of ship (regulation III/3.12)

IMO Number³⁾

Type of ship⁴⁾

Bulk carrier

Oil tanker

Chemical tanker

Gas carrier

Cargo ship other than any of the above

Date on which keel was laid or ship was at a similar stage of construction or,
where applicable, date on which work for a conversion or an alteration
or modification of a major character was commenced

THIS IS TO CERTIFY:

1. That the ship has been surveyed in accordance with the requirements of regulation I/8 of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol.
2. That the survey showed that:
 - 2.1 the ship complied with the requirements of the Convention as regards fire safety systems and appliances and fire control plans;
 - 2.2 the life-saving appliances and the equipment of the lifeboats, liferafts and rescue boats were provided in accordance with the requirements of the Convention;
 - 2.3 the ship was provided with a line-throwing appliance and radio installations used in life-saving appliances in accordance with the requirements of the Convention;
 - 2.4 the ship complied with the requirements of the Convention as regards shipborne navigational equipment, means of embarkation for pilots and nautical publications;

- 2.5 the ship was provided with lights, shapes and means of making sound signals and distress signals in accordance with the requirements of the Convention and the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea in force;
- 2.6 in all other respects the ship complied with the relevant requirements of the Convention;
- 2.7 the ship was/was not⁴⁾ subjected to an alternative design and arrangements in pursuance of regulation(s) II-2/17 / III/38⁴⁾ of the Convention;
- 2.8 a Document of approval of alternative design and arrangements for fire protection/ life-saving appliances and arrangements⁴⁾ is/is not⁴⁾ appended to this Certificate.
3. That the ship operates in accordance with regulation III/26.1.1.1⁵⁾ within the limits of the trade area
4. That in implementing regulation I/6(b) the Government has instituted:
 - mandatory annual surveys;
 - unscheduled inspections.
5. That an Exemption Certificate has/has not⁴⁾ been issued.

This certificate is valid until

Completion date of the survey on which this certificate is based:..... (dd/mm/yyyy)

Issued at

(Place of issue of certificate)

.....

(Date of issue)

.....
(Signature of authorized official
issuing the certificate)

(Seal or stamp of the issuing authority, as appropriate)

INTERMEDIATE SURVEY

(for tankers of 10 years of age and over)

This is to certify that at an intermediate survey required by regulation I/8 of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol, this ship was found to comply with relevant provisions of the Convention.

Signed:
(Signature of authorized official)
Place:
Date:
(Seal or stamp of the Authority,
as appropriate)

MANDATORY ANNUAL SURVEYS OR UNSCHEDULED INSPECTIONS

This is to certify that the ship has been surveyed in accordance with regulation I/6(b) of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol and the relevant recommendations of the Organization⁶⁾.

mandatory annual survey^{4),7)}
unscheduled inspection⁴⁾

Signed:
Place:
Date:

(Seal or stamp of the Authority,
as appropriate)

Under the provisions of regulation I/14 of the Convention, as modified by the 1978 Protocol, the validity of this Certificate is extended until

Signed:

Place:

Date:

(Seal or stamp of the Authority,
as appropriate)

- ¹⁾ Alternatively, the particulars of the ship may be placed horizontally in boxes.
- ²⁾ For oil tankers, chemical tankers and gas carriers only.
- ³⁾ In accordance with the *IMO ship identification number scheme*, adopted by the Organization by resolution A.600(15).
- ⁴⁾ Delete as appropriate.
- ⁵⁾ Refer to the 1983 amendments to SOLAS (MSC.6(48)), applicable to ships constructed on or after 1 July 1986, but before 1 July 1998 in the case of self-righting partially enclosed lifeboat(s) on board.
- ⁶⁾ Reference is made to the *Guidelines on surveys required by the 1978 SOLAS Protocol, the International Bulk Chemical Code and the International Gas Carrier Code*, adopted by the Organization by resolution A.560(14), as amended by MSC.84(70), and applicable parts of the *Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC), 2011*, as may be amended, adopted by the Organization by resolution A.1053(27).
- ⁷⁾ An intermediate survey, but not an unscheduled inspection, may take the place of a mandatory annual survey.

C. VERTALING

Zie *Trb.* 1978, 189 en de rubrieken J van *Trb.* 1983, 174, *Trb.* 1985, 156 en *Trb.* 1991, 159.

D. PARLEMENT

Zie *Trb.* 1981, 16 en de rubrieken J van *Trb.* 1983, 174 en *Trb.* 1991, 159.

Resolutie MSC.343(91) van 30 november 2012

De wijzigingen behoeven ingevolge artikel 7, onderdeel f, van de Rijkswet goedkeuring en bekendmaking verdragen niet de goedkeuring van de Staten-Generaal.

E. PARTIJGEGEVENS

Zie rubriek E van *Trb.* 1978, 189 en rubriek F van *Trb.* 1981, 16.

Partij	Onder- tekening	Ratificatie	Type [*]	In werking	Opzeg- ging	Buiten werking
Albanië		07-06-04	T	07-09-04		
Algerije		03-11-83	T	03-02-84		
Angola		03-10-91	T	03-01-92		
Antigua en Barbuda		09-02-87	T	09-05-87		
Argentinië		24-02-82	T	24-05-82		
Australië		17-08-83	T	17-11-83		
Bahama's		16-02-79	T	01-05-81		
Barbados		29-05-84	T	29-08-84		
België	08-09-78	24-09-79	R	01-05-81		
Belize		02-04-91	T	02-07-91		
Benin		11-02-00	T	11-05-00		
Bolivia		04-06-99	T	04-09-99		
Brazilië		20-11-85	T	20-02-86		
Brunei		23-10-86	T	23-01-87		
Bulgarije		02-11-83	T	02-02-84		
Cambodja		28-11-94	T	28-02-95		
Chili		15-07-92	T	15-10-92		
China		17-12-82	T	17-03-83		
Colombia		31-10-80	T	01-05-81		
Comoren		22-11-00	T	22-02-01		
Costa Rica		06-06-11	T	06-09-11		
Cuba		19-06-92	T	19-09-92		
Cyprus		11-10-85	T	11-01-86		
Denemarken		27-11-80	T	01-05-81		
Dominica		21-06-00	T	21-09-00		

Partij	Onder- tekening	Ratificatie	Type*	In werking	Opzeg- ging	Buiten werking
Duitsland	16-11-78	06-06-80	R	01-05-81		
Ecuador		21-05-08	T	21-08-08		
Egypte		07-08-86	T	07-11-86		
Equatoriaal- Guinea		24-04-96	T	24-07-96		
Estland		16-12-91	T	16-03-92		
Ethiopië		03-01-86	T	03-04-86		
Fiji		28-07-04	T	28-10-04		
Finland		30-04-81	T	01-05-81		
Frankrijk	26-01-79	21-12-79	R	01-05-81		
Ghana		19-05-83	T	19-08-83		
Grenada		28-06-04	T	28-09-04		
Griekenland		17-07-81	T	17-10-81		
Guinee		02-10-02	T	02-01-03		
Guyana		10-12-97	T	10-03-98		
Honduras		24-09-85	T	24-12-85		
Hongarije		03-02-82	T	03-05-82		
Ierland		29-11-83	T	29-02-84		
IJsland		06-07-83	T	06-10-83		
India		03-04-86	T	03-07-86		
Indonesië		23-08-88	T	23-11-88		
Iran		31-08-00	T	30-11-00		
Israël		21-08-81	T	21-11-81		
Italië		01-10-82	T	01-01-83		
Ivoorkust		05-10-87	T	05-01-88		
Jamaica		17-08-05	T	17-11-05		
Japan		15-05-80	T	01-05-81		
Joegoslavië (< 25-06-1991)	03-07-78	31-10-80	R	01-05-81		

Partij	Onder- tekening	Ratificatie	Type*	In werking	Opzeg- ging	Buiten werking
Kazachstan		07-03-94	T	07-06-94		
Kiribati		05-02-07	T	05-05-07		
Koeweit		29-06-79	T	01-05-81		
Kroatië		27-07-92	VG	08-10-91		
Letland		05-08-05	T	05-11-05		
Libanon		29-11-83	T	29-02-84		
Liberia	24-10-78	28-10-80	R	01-05-81		
Libië		02-07-81	T	02-10-81		
Litouwen		04-12-91	T	04-03-92		
Luxemburg		14-02-91	T	14-05-91		
Maleisië		19-10-83	T	19-01-84		
Malta		08-08-86	T	08-11-86		
Marokko		30-01-01	T	30-04-01		
Marshalleilanden		26-04-88	T	26-07-88		
Mauritanië		24-11-97	T	24-02-98		
Mexico	01-06-78	30-06-83	R	30-09-83		
Montenegro		03-06-06	VG	03-06-06		
Myanmar		11-11-87	T	11-02-88		
Namibië		27-11-00	T	27-02-01		
Nederlanden, het Koninkrijk der – Nederland: – in Europa – Bonaire – Sint Eustatius – Saba – Aruba – Curaçao – Sint Maarten	17-11-78	08-07-80 – – – – – –	R	01-05-81 10-10-10 10-10-10 10-10-10 01-01-86 10-10-10 10-10-10		
Nieuw-Zeeland		23-02-90	T	23-05-90		
Nigeria		13-11-84	T	13-02-85		
Noord-Korea		01-05-85	T	01-08-85		

Partij	Onder- tekening	Ratificatie	Type*	In werking	Opzeg- ging	Buiten werking
Noorwegen		25-03-81	T	01-05-81		
Oekraïne		16-07-92	T	16-10-92		
Oman		25-04-85	T	25-07-85		
Oostenrijk		27-05-88	T	27-08-88		
Pakistan		10-04-85	T	10-07-85		
Palau		29-09-11	T	29-12-11		
Panama		14-07-82	T	14-10-82		
Peru		16-07-82	T	16-10-82		
Polen	16-10-78	15-03-84	R	15-06-84		
Portugal		07-11-83	T	07-02-84		
Roemenië		14-01-08	T	14-04-08		
Russische Federatie		12-05-81	T	12-08-81		
Saint Kitts en Nevis		11-06-04	T	11-09-04		
Saint Lucia		20-05-04	T	20-08-04		
Saint Vincent en de Grenadines		13-07-87	T	13-10-87		
Samoa		14-03-97	T	14-06-97		
Sao Tomé en Principe		29-10-98	T	29-01-99		
Saudi-Arabië		02-03-90	T	02-06-90		
Senegal		16-01-97	T	16-04-97		
Servië		12-03-01	VG	27-04-92		
Seychellen		10-05-88	T	10-08-88		
Sierra Leone		10-03-08	T	10-06-08		
Singapore		01-06-84	T	01-09-84		
Slovenië		12-11-92	VG	25-06-91		
Slowakije		30-01-95	VG	01-01-93		
Spanje		30-04-80	T	01-05-81		

Partij	Ondertekening	Ratificatie	Type*	In werking	Opzegging	Buiten werking
Syrië		20-07-01	T	20-10-01		
Togo		19-07-89	T	19-10-89		
Tonga		18-09-03	T	18-12-03		
Trinidad en Tobago		07-06-12	T	07-09-12		
Tsjechië		19-10-93	VG	01-01-93		
Tsjechoslowakije (<01-01-1993)		02-06-83	T	02-09-83		
Tunesië		06-08-80	T	01-05-81		
Tuvalu		30-06-04	T	30-09-04		
Uruguay		30-04-79	T	01-05-81		
Vanuatu		28-07-82	T	28-10-82		
Verenigd Koninkrijk	24-08-78	05-11-79	R	01-05-81		
Verenigde Arabische Emiraten		15-12-83	T	15-03-84		
Verenigde Staten van Amerika	27-06-78	12-08-80	R	01-05-81		
Vietnam		12-10-92	T	12-01-93		
Zuid-Afrika		11-01-82	T	11-04-82		
Zuid-Korea		02-12-82	T	02-03-83		
Zweden	01-03-79	21-12-79	R	01-05-81		
Zwitserland		01-04-82	T	01-07-82		
* O=Ondertekening zonder voorbehoud of vereiste van ratificatie, R=Bekrachtiging, aanvaarding, goedkeuring of kennisgeving, T=Toetreding, VG=Voortgezette gebondenheid, NB=Niet bekend						

Uitbreidingen

China

Uitgebreid tot	In werking	Buiten werking
Hongkong SAR	01-07-1997	

Uitgebreid tot	In werking	Buiten werking
Macau SAR	20-12-1999	

Portugal

Uitgebreid tot	In werking	Buiten werking
Macau (<20-12-1999)	24-08-1999	20-12-1999

Verenigd Koninkrijk

Uitgebreid tot	In werking	Buiten werking
Bermuda	23-06-1988	
Caymaneilanden	23-06-1988	
Gibraltar	01-12-1988	
Hongkong (< 01-07-1997)	25-11-1981	01-07-1997
Man	01-07-1985	

Verklaringen, voorbehouden en bezwaren

Koeweit, 29 juni 1979

It is understood that the accession of the State of Kuwait to [...] the Protocol of 1978 [relating to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974] done at London on the 17th February 1978, does not in any way mean recognition of Israel by the State of Kuwait. Furthermore, no treaty relations will arise between the State of Kuwait and Israel.

Mededeling van Israël, 3 december 1979

The instrument of accession deposited by the Government of the State of Kuwait was accompanied by a statement of a political character in respect of Israel. In the view of the Government of Israel, this Convention is not the proper place for making such political pronouncements. Moreover, the said declaration cannot in any way affect whatever obligations are binding upon Kuwait under general international law or under particular conventions. The Government of Israel will, so far as concerns the substance of the matter, adopt towards the Government of the State of Kuwait an attitude of complete reciprocity.

G. INWERKINGTREDING

Zie *Trb.* 1981, 16 en rubriek J van *Trb.* 1985, 156 en *Trb.* 1996, 223.

Wat betreft het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden, geldt het Protocol, dat vanaf 1 januari 1986 voor Nederland (het Europese deel), de Nederlandse Antillen en Aruba gold, vanaf 10 oktober 2010 voor Nederland (het Europese en het Caribische deel), Aruba, Curaçao en Sint Maarten.

Resolutie MSC.343(91) van 30 november 2012

De wijzigingen zullen ingevolge artikel II van het Protocol juncto artikel VIII(b)(vii)(2) van het Verdrag voor de beveiliging van mensenlevens op zee op 1 juli 2014 in werking treden, tenzij overeenkomstig artikel VIII(b)(vi)(2)(bb) vóór 1 januari 2014 meer dan een derde van de Partijen bij het Protocol, of de Partijen waarvan de gezamenlijke koopvaardijvloeden ten minste vijftig procent van de brutotonnage van de wereldkoopvaardijvloeden vormen, de Secretaris-Generaal van de Internationale Maritieme Organisatie ervan in kennis stellen, dat zij bezwaar hebben tegen de wijzigingen.

J. VERWIJZINGEN

Zie voor verwijzingen en overige verdragsgegevens *Trb.* 1978, 189, *Trb.* 1981, 16, *Trb.* 1983, 174, *Trb.* 1985, 156, *Trb.* 1991, 159 en *Trb.* 1996, 223.

Verbanden

Het Protocol dient ter aanvulling van:

Titel : Internationaal Verdrag voor de beveiliging van mensenlevens op zee, 1974;
Londen, 1 november 1974
Laatste *Trb.* : *Trb.* 2013, 80

Het Protocol wordt tussen Partijen vervangen door:

Titel : Protocol van 1988 bij het Internationaal Verdrag voor de beveiliging van mensenlevens op zee, 1974;
Londen, 11 november 1988
Laatste *Trb.* : *Trb.* 2013, 82

Overige verwijzingen

Titel : Handvest van de Verenigde Naties;
San Francisco, 26 juni 1945

Laatste *Trb.* : *Trb.* 2012, 200

Titel : Verdrag inzake de Internationale Maritieme Organisatie;
Genève, 6 maart 1948

Laatste *Trb.* : *Trb.* 2008, 26

Uitgegeven de *zestiende* mei 2013.

De Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken,

F.C.G.M. TIMMERMANS