

Rule 10 – TSS

(a) This Rule Applies to traffic separation schemes **adopted by the Organization and does not relieve any vessel of her obligation under any other rule.**

(b) A vessel using a traffic separation scheme shall:

(i) proceed in the **appropriate traffic lane** in the general direction of traffic flow for that lane;

(ii) so far as practicable keep clear of a traffic separation line or separation zone;

(iii) normally **join or leave a traffic lane at the termination of the lane**, but when joining or leaving from either side shall do so at as small an angle to the general direction of traffic flow as practicable.

(c) A vessel shall so far as practicable **avoid crossing traffic lanes**, but if obliged to **do so shall cross on a heading as nearly as practicable at right angles** to the general direction of traffic flow.

(d)

(i) A vessel shall not use an inshore traffic zone when she can safely use the appropriate traffic lane within the adjacent traffic separation scheme. However, vessels of less than 20 meters in length, sailing vessels and vessels engaged in fishing may use the inshore traffic zone.

(ii) Notwithstanding subparagraph (d) (i), a vessel may use an inshore traffic zone when en route to or from a port, offshore installation or structure, pilot station or any other place situated within the inshore traffic zone, or to avoid immediate danger.

(e) **A vessel, other than a crossing vessel, or a vessel joining or leaving a lane shall not normally enter a separation zone or cross a separation line except:**

(i) in cases of **emergency** to avoid immediate danger;

(ii) to **engage in fishing** within a separation zone.

(f) A vessel navigating in areas near the terminations of traffic separation schemes shall do so with particular caution.

(g) A vessel shall so far as practicable **avoid anchoring in a traffic separation scheme** or in areas near its terminations.

(h) A vessel not using a traffic separation scheme **shall avoid it by as wide a margin as is practicable.**

(i) **A vessel engaged in fishing shall not impede the passage of any vessel following a traffic lane.**

(j) A vessel of less than 20 meters in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the safe passage of a power-driven vessel following a traffic lane.

(k) A vessel **restricted in her ability to manoeuvre when engaged in an operation for the maintenance of safety of navigation in a traffic separation** scheme is exempted from complying with this Rule to the extent necessary to carry out the operation.

(l) **A vessel restricted in her ability to manoeuvre when engaged in an operation for the laying, servicing or picking up of a submarine cable, within a traffic separation scheme,** is exempted from complying with this Rule to the extent necessary to carry out the operation.