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Rules on the priority of passage through locks on the Moselle applicable as from 2012



Priority of passage through locks:

As a consequence of the different lengths of the impounded reaches, varying discharges and the different types of vessels with different loads, maintaining the former practice of designated time slots for vessels enjoying priority of passage through locks was no longer feasible.

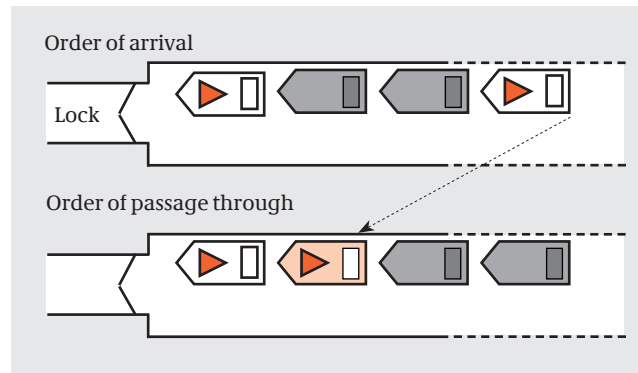
The Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development therefore decided to abolish the former time slots for priority of passage through locks on the Moselle as from 2012. Only the provisions of Article 6.29 of the Police Regulations for the Navigation on the Moselle (MoselSchPV) will be applicable.

Applicable provisions as from 1 January 2012:

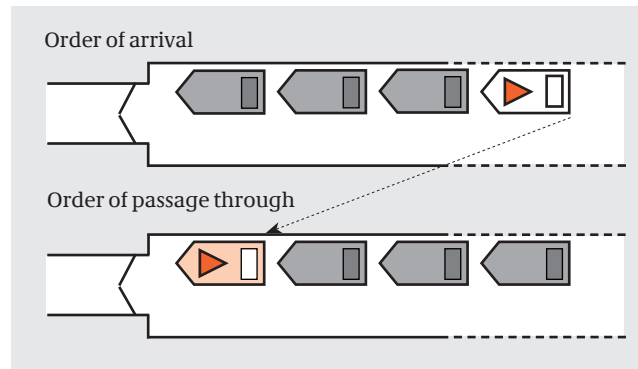
- Specific time slots for a priority of passage through locks will no longer exist.
- From now on, priority of passage will only be granted for the time between 7 hrs and 20 hrs (Article 6.29 paragraph 5, p. 3 of the MoselSchPV). Between 20 hrs and 7 hrs, lock passage will take place exclusively in the order of arrival in accordance with Article 6.29 paragraph 1bis of the MoselSchPV.
- Vessels enjoying priority of passage must fly a red pennant (Article 3.17 of the MoselSchPV).
- All vessels having priority of passage must report to the lock staff when entering the area within 1,500 metres of the lock.
- For determining the order of passage, the actual arrival of a vessel in the lock area (at the C4 sign with the additional sign) or the order of arrival as observed by the shift supervisors shall apply.
- Between 7 hrs and 20 hrs, a vessel which has priority of passage may pass vessels waiting in the lock area which have no priority and thus make use of its right to priority. In this case, a vessel without priority of passage must afterwards be locked through in the same direction (Article 6.29 paragraph 6 of the MoselSchPV).

Order of passage through locks:

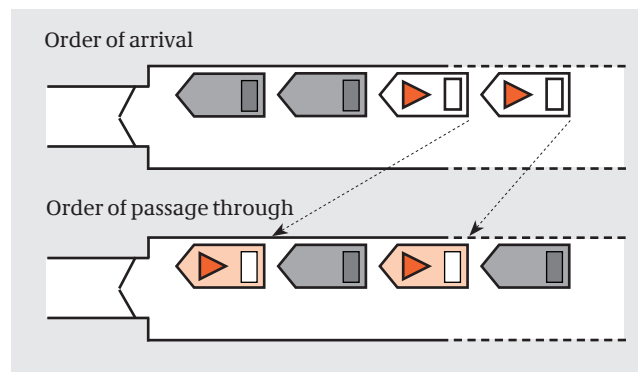
Example 1



Example 2



Example 3






Extract from the Police Regulations for the Navigation on the Moselle:

Article 6.29 Order of passage

1. Passage through locks shall be in the order of arrival.
 - a. Passage through locks shall be in the order of arrival.
 - ...
 - c. The lock staff may, however, give instructions departing from this provision in order to ensure best possible use of the lock or to lock through vessels carrying dangerous goods separately for safety reasons, if necessary.
 - ...
 5. The priority of passage in accordance with paragraph 2 (b) shall grant the vessel concerned the right to be locked through before other vessels waiting to be locked through if the vessel having the priority of passage is at a distance of less than 1,500 m from the lock, its presence having either been noted by the lock staff or reported by the vessel itself via radio-telephone. In no case, it shall entitle the vessel to pass through the lock at a previously determined point in time. The priority of passage through locks in accordance with paragraph 2 (b) shall only be applicable between 7 hrs and 20 hrs.
 6. After each upstream or downstream passage of a vessel claiming its right to priority of passage, one vessel without priority shall be locked through in the same direction.
 - ...
- Explanatory note on Article 6.29 paragraph 6, p. 1:

„Claiming the right to priority of passage” means that a vessel which has the right to priority has passed before vessels without priority waiting in the lock area in order to be locked through before them.

Legend for the examples shown:

-  Vessel with priority of passage
-  Vessel without priority of passage
-  Vessel claiming its priority