



RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING

CIRCULAR LETTER

No. 311-05-1944c

dated 30.05.2023

Re:

amendments to the Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships, 2023, ND No. 2-020101-174-E

Item(s) of supervision:

ships under construction

Entry-into-force date:

01.07.2023

~~Cancels / amends / adds Circular Letter No.~~

~~dated~~

Number of pages: 1 + 6

Appendices:

Appendix 1: information on amendments introduced by the Circular Letter

Appendix 2: text of amendments to Part VI "Fire Protection"

Director General

Sergey A. Kulikov

Text of CL:

We hereby inform that in connection with implementation of IACS Unified Interpretations (UI) SC121 (Rev.2 Jan 2023) (Corr.1 Apr 2023) and SC245 (Rev.1 Jan 2023), the Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships shall be amended as specified in the Appendices to the Circular Letter.

It is necessary to do the following:

1. Bring the content of the Circular Letter to the notice of the RS surveyors, interested organizations and persons in the area of the RS Branch Offices' activity.
 2. Apply the provisions of the Circular Letter during review and approval of the technical documentation on ships contracted for construction or conversion on or after 01.07.2023, in the absence of a contract, during review and approval of the technical documentation on ships requested for review on or after 01.07.2023.
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List of the amended and/or introduced paras/chapters/sections:

Paras 3.2.4.2, 3.2.5.7, 3.3.1.4, 3.3.2.5, 3.3.3.2, Table 5.1.2 and para 8.6.2

Person in charge: Evgeny V. Koptev

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(812) 312-11-00

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**Information on amendments introduced by the Circular Letter
(for inclusion in the Revision History to the RS Publication)**

Nos.	Amended paras/chapters/ sections	Information on amendments	Number and date of the Circular Letter	Entry-into-force date
1	Para 3.2.4.2	Requirements have been specified for emergency fire pump in connection with implementation of IACS UI SC121 (Rev.2 Jan 2023) (Corr.1 Apr 2023)	311-05-1944c of 30.05.2023	01.07.2023
2	Para 3.2.5.7	Requirements have been specified for arrangement of isolating valves on the fire main in connection with implementation of IACS UI SC245 (Rev.1 Jan 2023)	311-05-1944c of 30.05.2023	01.07.2023
3	Para 3.3.1.4	Requirements have been specified for components of the sprinkler system	311-05-1944c of 30.05.2023	01.07.2023
4	Para 3.3.2.5	Requirements have been specified for non-return shut-off valve fitted at the connection of the sprinkler system with the ship's fire main	311-05-1944c of 30.05.2023	01.07.2023
5	Para 3.3.3.2	Requirements have been specified for application of the ship's compressed air system for automatic pressure maintenance in pressure tank of the sprinkler system	311-05-1944c of 30.05.2023	01.07.2023
6	Table 5.1.2	In item 10.1 requirements have been specified for providing the passenger ships of restricted area of navigation R3 of less than 150 gross tonnage with fireman's outfit. New item 21 has been introduced containing requirements for providing the container ships and other ships designed to carry five and more tiers of containers on or above the weather deck with mobile water monitors	311-05-1944c of 30.05.2023	01.07.2023

Nos.	Amended paras/chapters/ sections	Information on amendments	Number and date of the Circular Letter	Entry-into-force date
7	Para 8.6.2	Requirements have been specified regarding protection of machinery spaces of category A on ships equal to or greater than 150 but less than 500 gross tonnage with fixed fire extinguishing system in accordance with Table 3.1.2.1	311-05-1944c of 30.05.2023	01.07.2023

RULES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF SEA-GOING SHIPS, 2023,

ND No. 2-020201-174-E

PART VI. FIRE PROTECTION

3 FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS

1 **Para 3.2.4.2** is replaced by the following text:

"3.2.4.2 The emergency fire pump, its sources of power and sea connections shall be so located as not to be put out of action in the event of a fire within the spaces where the main fire pumps are located.

The emergency fire pump, its seawater inlet, and suction and delivery pipes and isolating valves shall be located outside the machinery space. If this arrangement cannot be made, the sea chest may be fitted in the machinery space if the sea inlet valve is remotely controlled from a position in the same compartment as the emergency fire pump and the suction pipe is as short as practicable. Short lengths of suction or discharge piping of the emergency fire pump may penetrate the machinery space or compartments where main fire pumps are installed, provided they shall be welded except for the flange connection to the sea inlet valve and shall have thickness in no case less than 11 mm, and shall be enclosed in a substantial steel casing or insulated to "A-60" class standards in accordance with IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1456. The method for insulating pipes to "A-60" class standards is that they shall be covered in a practical manner by insulation material which is approved as a part of "A-60" class divisions in accordance with the FTP Code requirements. Herewith, it is not necessary to insulate welded-on branches, sea inlet valves and sea-chests.

Where the sea inlet valve is in the machinery space, the valve shall not be a fail-close type. Where the sea inlet valve is in the machinery space and is not a fail-open type, measures shall be taken so that the valve can be opened in the event of fire, e.g. control piping, actuating devices and/or electric cables (remotely controlled valves) with fire resistant protection equivalent to "A-60" class standards.

Location of the pump and its drive shall allow free access to them for maintenance and repair."

2 **Para 3.2.5.7** is replaced by the following text:

"3.2.5.7 Isolating valve to separate the piping within the machinery space of category A containing the fire pump (or pumps) from the main outside shall be fitted in piping in easily accessible position (outside the machinery space).

The fire main shall be so arranged that when the isolating valves are shut, all the hydrants on the ship, except those fitted in the piping separated from water supply, can be supplied with water by another fire pump or the emergency fire pump located outside the machinery space of category A.

It is not required to install isolating valves on piping from the fire pumps, which are located in spaces other than machinery spaces of category A, outside these spaces. The isolation valves need not be installed for isolation of short lengths of suction or discharge piping located in the machinery space of category A and protected in accordance with 3.2.4.2."

3 **Para 3.3.1.4** is replaced by the following text:

"**3.3.1.4** The pump and the pipes of the sprinkler system, except for the piping connecting the sprinkler system to the water fire main system, shall be independent of all other systems."

4 **Para 3.3.2.5** is replaced by the following text:

"**3.3.2.5** Provision shall be made for connection of the main supply piping with the ship's fire main. A non-return shut-off valve shall be fitted at the connection concerned and shall be equipped with a locking device preventing unintended opening."

5 **Para 3.3.3.2** is replaced by the following text:

"**3.3.3.2** The pressure tank shall contain a standing charge of fresh water equivalent to the volume of water which would be discharged in 1 min by the sprinkler pump.

The volume of the pressure tank shall be equal to at least twice that of the charge of water specified above.

Arrangements shall be made for maintaining such air pressure in the tank as to ensure that where the perennial supply of fresh water in the tank has been used, the pressure in that tank is not less than a working pressure at the sprinkler plus a hydrostatic pressure from the tank bottom to the highest sprinkler.

Suitable means of replenishing the air under pressure and of replenishing the fresh water charge in the tank shall be provided. Means shall be also provided to prevent the passage of sea water into the tank.

The ship's compressed air system may be used for automatic pressure maintenance in the pressure tank, provided the requirements of 16.1.6, Part VIII "Systems and Piping" are met."

5 FIRE-FIGHTING OUTFIT, SPARE PARTS AND TOOLS

6 **Table 5.1.2. Item 10.1** is replaced by the following text:

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Nos.	Description of items of outfit	Number of items of outfit to be available in each ship
10	Fireman's outfit (refer to 5.1.15)	<p>1 In passenger ships, 2 sets and additionally for every 80 m, or part thereof, of the total length of all accommodation and service spaces on the deck they are situated, or if there are more than one such deck on the deck with the maximum total length of the above spaces 2 sets in accordance with 5.1.15 and 2 sets of personal outfit in accordance with 5.1.15.1.1 – 5.1.15.1.5. In passenger ships carrying more than 36 passengers, two additional fireman's outfits shall be provided for each main vertical zone. However, for stairway enclosures which constitute individual main vertical zones and for the main vertical zones in the fore or aft end of the ship, which do not contain spaces of categories (6), (7), (8) or (12) (refer to 2.2.1.3), no additional fireman's outfits are required.</p> <p>However, in passenger ships of 24 m in length and over and of less than 300 gross tonnage, 1 set of personal outfit in accordance with 5.1.15.1.1 – 5.1.15.1.5. On passenger ships of restricted area of navigation R3 of less than 150 gross tonnage the fireman's outfit is not required.</p>

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New item 21 is introduced reading as follows:

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Nos.	Description of items of outfit	Number of items of outfit to be available in each ship
21	Mobile water monitors (refer to 6.7.3)	In container ships and other ships designed to carry five and more tiers of containers on or above the weather deck — for ships with breadth less than 30 m: at least 2, and for ships with breadth of 30 m and more: at least 4

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8 REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRE PROTECTION OF CARGO SHIPS OF LESS THAN 500 GROSS TONNAGE

7 **Para 8.6.2** is replaced by the following text:

"8.6.2 Machinery spaces of category A on ships equal to or greater than 150 gross tonnage, except on ships of restricted area of navigation R3, shall be protected by the fixed fire extinguishing system in accordance with Table 3.1.2.1."