



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 023 of 14 September 2011

To:	All Surveyors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	Fixed carbon hydrocarbon gas detection system
Reference:	SAFETY-SOLAS II-2 Reg. 4

THE REVISED REGULATION 4 of SOLAS II-2

Following adoption of Resolution **MSC.291(87)** new oil tankers of 20,000 DWT or above with keel laid after January 1, 2012 shall be provided with fixed carbon hydrocarbon gas detection system. The system must be capable of measuring gas in ballast tanks and void spaces of double-hull ships. This new requirement does not apply to ships with constant operating inerting systems. However, it is applicable to chemical tankers.

Furthermore, following adoption of the above mentioned Resolution all new and existing oil tankers shall be fitted with equipment capable of measuring oxygen concentrations in addition to current requirement for portable instrument for measuring flammable vapor concentration.

IMPLICATION IN THE FSS CODE

As a consequence to the above mentioned amendments in SOLAS, **MSC.292 (87)** adopted on May 21, 2010 a new Chapter 16 has been adopted in the FSS Code for requirements of fixed hydrocarbon gas detection system. Through **MSC.1/Circ.1370**, IMO has published guidelines for the design, construction and testing of fixed hydrocarbon gas detection system. More specifically, it is required that in the design stage of new tankers, electrical wiring arrangements as well as extraction pump arrangements to be considered in this early stage.

It is important to note that although testing and survey requirements are not included in the guidelines, these must be addressed.

REFERENCES:

CONARINA SURVEYOR INSTRUCTIONS - CLASSIFICATION

ATTACHMENTS:

No.

Kindest Regards,
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