



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 213 of 06th August 2014

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	Caribbean MoU-Fire Safety Systems
Reference:	CMOU (Caribbean Memorandum of Understanding)

Caribbean MoU to launch CIC on fire safety systems

The Caribbean Memorandum of Understanding (CMOU) on port state control will launch its second Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on 1 September, 2014. This will *focus on ensuring compliance with SOLAS Chapter II-2 and the International Code for Fire Safety Systems on board ships. The CIC will last three months, ending on 30 November, 2014.*

The CIC is designed to raise awareness of fire safety-related issues and to ensure that:

- ships are complying with the requirements of the SOLAS Convention Chapter II-2 and the International Code for Fire Safety Systems
- fire-fighting equipment is readily available and maintained at all times
- the Master, Officers and Crew are familiar with the equipment and have received training in carrying out their duties.

In practice, the CIC will mean that during a regular port state control inspection conducted under the targeting matrix criteria within the CMOU region, the fire safety plan, fire control measures, drills, crew awareness and other applicable documentation will be verified in more detail for compliance with SOLAS Chapter II-2 and the International Code for Fire Safety Systems.

Port state control officers will use a questionnaire listing a number of items to be covered during the CIC. When deficiencies are found, actions by the port state may vary from recording a deficiency and instructing the master to rectify it within a certain period to detaining the ship until serious deficiencies have been rectified.

List of the selected item for questioning during CIC

1. Is the Fire Control Plan present, permanently exhibited and up to date ?
2. Do the fire fighters' outfits including personal equipment comply with the requirements?
3. Do the Emergency Escape Breathing Devices (EEBD) comply with the requirements?
4. Are the portable extinguishers ready for use in locations as per the fire control plan?
5. Does the automatic audible alarm sound prior to the release of a fixed gas fire-extinguishing medium into spaces in which personnel normally work?

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6. Are the fire protection systems, firefighting-systems and appliances maintained / ready for use?
7. Is there a maintenance plan onboard, to show that fire protection systems and fire- fighting systems and appliances (as appropriate) have been properly tested and inspected?
8. Does the activation of any detector or manually operated call point initiate a visual and audible fire signal at the control panel on the bridge or control station?
9. Is the emergency fire pump, capable of producing at least two jets of water?
10. Are the isolating valves of the fire main marked, maintained and easily operable?
11. Where a fire drill was witnessed was it found to be satisfactory?
12. Was the ship detained as a result of the CIC?

Any detentions will be published in the monthly detention lists of the CMOU website. It is expected that the CMOU will carry out approximately 200 inspections during the CIC. The results of the campaign will be analyzed and findings will be presented to the governing body of the CMOU for submission to the relevant IMO sub-committees.

REFERENCES:

- CMOU (Caribbean Memorandum of Understanding)

ATTACHMENTS: No.

Kindest Regards,

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