



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 278 of 04th July 2015

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	Special requirements for breathing apparatus cylinders
Reference:	SOLAS Ch. III

Special requirements for breathing apparatus cylinders

ClassNK has issued Technical Information regarding the special requirements for means of recharging breathing apparatus cylinders and spare cylinders regarding UK, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Gibraltar and the Isle of Man flagged vessels.

With regard to the additional requirements for relevant equipment of fire-fighter's outfit, it had been notified by the Technical Information (No.: TEC-0990, Date: 24 June 2014) for existing ships (ships which are constructed (keel-laid) before 1 July 2014) and by Amendments to Part R of the RULES FOR THE SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION OF STEEL SHIP on 26 February 2014 for new ships (ships which are constructed (keel-laid) on or after 1 July 2014). With regard to th

The Administrations of the UK, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Gibraltar and the Isle of Man have issued special requirements for means of recharging breathing apparatus cylinders and spare cylinders as follows.

- In addition to the fully charged spare cylinders required by the regulations for each Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), where no means for recharging such cylinders is provided on board, sufficient additional spare cylinders must be provided for training purposes.
- Factors to be considered by the ship owner when deciding upon the number of training cylinders to be provided include the requirements in the Safety Management System for the number/frequency of drills on board where SCBA cylinders may be used, and the nature of the vessels trading pattern with respect to shore based charging facilities.
- Cylinders intended for training purposes should be prominently marked to indicate their intended use.
- The Safety Management System must take account that at least one fully charged spare cylinder for training purposes must be provided for each SCBA set required by regulation to be on board.
- If additional training SCBA sets are provided on board (each with a fully charged training cylinder), then the equivalent number of SCBA sets required on board by regulation need not be provided with a spare cylinder for training purposes

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REFERENCES:

- SOLAS Ch. III

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