



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 567 of 07th July 2019

To: All Surveyors/Auditors

Applicable to flag: All Flags

Measures to enhance the safety of ships relating to the use of oil fuel

Reference: IMO MSC 101

Fuel Quality and Safety

- The Committee developed an MSC Resolution recommending interim measures to enhance the safety of ships relating to the use of oil fuel. The measures recommend that SOLAS contracting governments:
 - Inform IMO for transmission to Parties to the SOLAS Convention and Member States of all confirmed cases where oil fuel suppliers delivered oil fuel that failed to meet the flashpoint requirements specified in SOLAS Reg II-2/4.2.1 and sulphur content and quality requirements under regulations 14 and 18 of MARPOL Annex VI;
 - Act as appropriate against oil fuel suppliers in all confirmed cases of deliveries of oil fuel that do not comply with the above-mentioned requirements;
 - Encourage the widest possible application of the latest edition of relevant industry standards for marine distillate fuels (ISO 8217:2017 and any subsequent revision thereof, and ISO/PAS 23263 (currently under development)) and guidance to enhance the safety of ships related to supply and use of oil fuel; and
 - Inform the IMO, for transmission to Parties and IMO Member States of confirmed cases where oil fuel suppliers had delivered oil fuel having properties (e.g. stability, compatibility, cold flow, acid number, ignition and combustibility quality, cat fines, low viscosity, pour point and unusual components) that jeopardized the safety of ships or personnel; or adversely affected the performance of the machinery
- The Committee established a correspondence group to progress the above work leading up to the next session.

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- The Committee agreed to develop a platform on GISIS for reporting of non-compliance of flashpoint requirements, with a preference to integrate it to the existing GISIS platform for MARPOL Annex VI.
- In association with the above, the Committee developed an action plan for the next three meetings to address the development of mandatory requirements to enhance the safety of ships relating to the use of oil fuel and development of guidelines for ships to address situations where independent test results indicating that non-compliant oil fuel was delivered.
- Noting the likelihood of the introduction of new fuel grades related to the implementation of the 2020 sulphur limit the Committee agreed to instruct SDC 7 to further consider a unified interpretation of fuel oil service tank arrangements under SOLAS regulation II 1/26.11. IACS advised that additional consultation within their members would be necessary and that the fuel oil service tank arrangements provided in UI SC 123 may require further consideration.

REFERENCES:

- IMO MSC Resolution 101

- ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,
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