



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 787 of 7th July 2023

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	Fire-Fighting Foams
Reference	Amendments to SOLAS Chapter II-2

Prohibition of Fire-Fighting Foams Containing PFOS Onboard Ships

The Committee adopted Resolutions MSC.530(107) amendments to SOLAS Chapter II-2 and Resolutions MSC.534(107) & MSC.535(107) amending the HSC Codes (1994 and 2000) to introduce the prohibition of use or storage of fire-fighting foams containing PFOS (perfluorooctane sulfonic acid) for firefighting on board ships.

PFOS has been deemed hazardous to the marine environment and human beings, and this prohibition will apply to both fixed and portable systems. This prohibition is being introduced into SOLAS and the HSC Codes by the addition of a new section "Fire Extinguishing Media Restrictions" in each respective text, so that it will be easier to include future prohibitions or limitations of extinguishing media shown to be dangerous to people and the environment. This prohibition will be applicable to both new and existing ships and include prohibiting the use or storage of extinguishing media containing PFOS no later than the date of the first survey on or after January 1, 2026, and delivering the prohibited substances to appropriate shore-based reception facilities when removed from the craft.

REFERENCES:

- Resolutions MSC.530(107) amendments to SOLAS Chapter II-2.

ATTACHMENTS: No

kindest Regards,
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