

Scope of Application of Fire-resistant Cables

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part H
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Passenger Ships

Reason for Amendment

- (1) IACS Unified Requirement (UR) E15(Rev.2) specifies that cables of devices required to be operable during fires which pass through high fire risk areas are to be fire-resistant cables. The definition of “high fire risk areas” is defined in SOLAS II-2/3-30 and includes machinery spaces, etc.

However, certain machinery spaces such as those containing ventilation and air conditioning machinery, etc. are considered to be “machinery spaces having little or no fire risk” according to MSC/Circ.1120. Therefore, in order to eliminate any confusion as to whether fire-resistant cables are needed for such spaces, IACS decided to review the meaning of “high fire risk area” as it applies to UR E15(Rev.2). As a result, IACS decided to amend UR E15(Rev.2) and developed a draft proposal for UR E15(Rev.3). Although UR E15(Rev.3) still is waiting final approval, its content has been essentially agreed upon by IACS members.

Accordingly, relevant requirements related to the definition of “high fire risk area” were amended in accordance with the draft version of IACS UR E15(Rev.3) in consideration of industry member request for the speedy incorporation of this amendment into the ClassNK Rules.

- (2) At the 91st Session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC91) held in November 2012, SOLAS II-2/Reg.9, which is related to the fire integrity of bulkheads and decks used to partition ro-ro and vehicle spaces, was amended to require “A-30” insulation instead of the “steel or equivalent material” insulation which had been required up until that time. This amendment was adopted as IMO Resolution MSC.338(91). Because of the aforementioned change, it is assumed that power operated fire doors will be also installed in ro-ro vessels.

Accordingly, requirements related to power operated fire doors currently specified in the “Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Passenger Ships” were moved to the “Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part H”.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Deleted spaces containing generators, major electrical units, refrigerating, stabilizing, ventilation and air conditioning machinery and trunk to such spaces from “high fire risk area”.
- (2) Moved requirements related to the control and power systems to power operated fire doors and status indication for all fire doors currently specified in the “Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Passenger Ships” to the “Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part H”.