

Means of Escape from Machinery Control Rooms and Main Workshops

Amended Guidance

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

Reason for Amendment

IMO adopted the amendments to SOLAS regulation II-2/13.4 to specify that machinery control rooms and main workshops within machinery spaces of category A are to be provided with two means of escape respectively, at least one of which provides continuous fire shelter, in order to prevent crews from being trapped within such enclosed spaces in the event of fire in machinery spaces. The amendments will be applied to ships the keels of which are laid on or after 1 January 2016. They have already been incorporated into our Rules and Guidance.

Meanwhile, IMO further considered the definitions of the terms “machinery control room”, “main workshop” and “continuous fire shelter” as well as the detailed requirements of continuous fire shelters, because these terms were not defined. As a result of discussions, the unified interpretation related to means of escape from machinery control rooms and main workshops was approved at MSC95 held in June 2015 and circulated as MSC.1/Circ.1511.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with the MSC.1/Circ.1511.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Clarified the definitions of the terms “machinery control room”, “main workshop” and “continuous fire shelter”.
- (2) Specified the detailed requirements of continuous fire shelters with the illustrations of typical arrangements.