

Unified Interpretation of the Code on Noise Levels on Board Ships

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B

Reason for Amendment

“Code on Noise Levels On Board Ships” (hereinafter referred to “the Noise Code”), adopted in November 2012 as Resolution MSC.337(91), applies to ships of 1,600 gross tonnage and above whose building contract is placed on or after 1 July 2014.

In the Noise Code, it is required that the noise level at designated compartments / spaces is to comply with the noise level criteria. In addition, decks and bulkheads within accommodation spaces are required to have an appropriate weighted sound reduction index. However, some requirements in the Noise Code are limited to generic descriptions, but not specified in detail.

With respect to the above requirements, IMO further considered to clarify the requirements in the Noise Code.

As a result of the discussions, the unified interpretation for taking of the noise measurement, required noise level criteria and the measurement of airborne sound insulation properties for decks and bulkheads was approved at MSC95 held in June 2015 and circulated as MSC.1/Circ.1509.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with the MSC.1/Circ.1509.

Outline of Amendment

The main contents of this amendment are as follows:

- (1) Specified that louvres of cabin doors are to be kept “open” during taking of the noise measurements.
- (2) Specified that a navigating bridge provided with radio equipment is to be regarded as a “navigating bridge”.
- (3) Clarified the airborne sound insulation properties on bulkhead of bathroom, toilet and lavatory.
- (4) Specified the evaluation means regarding sound reduction index of bulkhead consisting of acoustic insulation panels and doors