

Guidance on Pressure Testing of Boundaries of Cargo Tanks under Direction of the Master

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B

Reason for Amendment

The “International Code on the Enhanced Programme of Inspections During Surveys of Bulk Carriers and Oil Tankers, 2011” (the “2011 ESP Code”) requires pressure tests to be carried out for tanks during renewal surveys. In addition, it is specified that pressure tests for cargo tanks of oil tankers carried out by crew members under the direction of the ship’s master may be accepted. The conditions for performing said tests are also specified.

Detailed guidance on pressure testing under direction of the master was recently approved as MSC.1/Circ.1502 by the IMO Maritime Safety Committee at its 95th Session (MSC95). Although MSC.1/Circ.1502 is not mandatory, relevant provisions based upon MSC.1/Circ.1502 were being incorporated into the ClassNK Rules as reference for owners, ship management companies and ship masters, etc.

Furthermore, the guidance based upon MSC.1/Circ.1502 can be also used for ships carrying dangerous chemicals in bulk with integral tanks since pressure tests for cargo tanks of such ships carried out by crew members under the direction of the ship’s master may be accepted in accordance with IACS Unified Requirements Z10.3.

Outline of Amendment

Specified guidance for pressure testing under direction of the ship’s master for cargo tanks of oil tankers and ships carrying dangerous chemicals in bulk with integral tanks.