

Portable Atmosphere Testing Instruments for Enclosed Spaces, etc.

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B
Rules for High Speed Craft
Rules for the Survey and Construction of Passenger Ships
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B
Guidance for High Speed Craft
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Passenger Ships

Reason for Amendment

In recent years, there have been numerous reports of crew members suffering serious injuries after entering enclosed spaces, such as cargo holds and machinery rooms, etc., due to a lack of oxygen. These injuries were primarily the result of insufficient crew member awareness of the dangers involved with entering such spaces prior to entry. In response, IMO discussed this matter and investigated ways to ensure crew safety.

As a result of this discussion, IMO established SOLAS XI-1/7, which specifies that portable atmosphere testing instruments capable of measuring the atmosphere within enclosed spaces prior to entry are to be provided on board. The new requirements were adopted as resolution MSC.380(94) at the 94th Session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC94) held in November 2014.

Accordingly, all relevant requirements were amended based upon MSC.380(94).

Outline of Amendment

The main contents of this amendment are as follows:

- (1) Specified that portable atmosphere testing instruments capable of measuring the atmosphere within enclosed spaces prior to entry are to be provided on board.
- (2) Specified that portable atmosphere testing instruments are to be confirmed to be in good condition at periodical surveys.