

Means of Escape from the Steering Gear Space in Cargo Ships

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part R

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part R

Reason for Amendment

SOLAS II-2/13.4.2.2 stipulates that a second means of escape is to be provided when the emergency steering position is located in the steering gear space unless there is no direct access to the open deck. On the other hand, the definition of “direct access to the open deck” and the requirements relating to the escape route from the steering gear spaces which do not contain the emergency steering position are not clearly specified.

Therefore, in order to clarify the above, IACS adopted UI SC269 in December 2014 so that escape routes that pass only through stairways and/or corridors that have fire integrity protection equivalent to steering gear spaces are considered as providing a “direct access to the open deck”, and steering gear spaces which do not contain the emergency steering position need to have only one means of escape.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with IACS UI SC269.

In addition, the requirements relating to the escape routes from the steering gear spaces specified in 13.4.3, Part R of the Rules were transferred to 13.4.2, Part R of the Rules specifying the dispensation of the means of escape, in accordance with the structure of SOLAS.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Specified that steering gear spaces which do not contain the emergency steering position need to have only one means of escape.
- (2) Specified the requirements of the escape routes relating to steering gear spaces containing the emergency steering position.
- (3) Specified that escape routes that pass only through stairways and/or corridors that have fire integrity protection equivalent to steering gear spaces are considered as providing a “direct access to the open deck”.
- (4) Transferred the requirements relating to the means of escape specified in 13.4.3, Part R of the Rules to 13.4.2, Part R of the Rules.