

# **Secondary Means of Venting Arrangements for Tankers**

## **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 regulation II-2/11.6.1 specifies that venting arrangements (primary means) are required in order to ensure that cargo tank pressures do not exceed design parameters during cargo loading, unloading, ballasting and de-ballasting. In addition, SOLAS regulation II-2/11.6.3 specifies that duplicate venting arrangement (secondary means) is to be provided against the failure the primary venting arrangement.

Concerns were raised that where secondary means of venting arrangement for a cargo tank are combined with other cargo tanks, they cannot prevent over-pressure or under pressure in the event of damage or inadvertent closing of stop valves or other acceptable means.

The suggestion that even if stop valves or other acceptable means are closed by the event of damage or inadvertent closing, the venting arrangement for cargo tanks is to be done appropriately was deliberated at IMO. As a result of deliberating this matter, the amendment of SOLAS was adopted at the 95<sup>th</sup> session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC95) held in June 2015.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with Resolution MSC.392(95).

## **Outline of Amendment**

- (1) Specified that even if stop valves or other acceptable means are closed by the event of damage or inadvertent closing, the venting arrangement for cargo tanks is to be done appropriately during cargo loading, unloading, ballasting and de-ballasting.
- (2) Amended that the requirement of openings for small flow of pressure relief by thermal variations in cargo tanks.
- (3) Specified that secondary means of venting arrangement for cargo tanks is to be required to prevent over-pressure or under pressure by the event of damage or inadvertent closing of stop valves or other acceptable means.

## **Amended Requirements**

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships  
Part R: 4.5.3, 11.6.2, 11.6.3  
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships  
Part R: R11.6.3