Ventilation for Emergency Generator Rooms

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Parts B, C, CS, and D Rules for High Speed Craft Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Parts C and D Guidance for High Speed Craft

Reason for Amendment

The ClassNK Rules specify that ventilators for emergency generator rooms are, in principle, not to be fitted with closing appliances in order to ensure adequate air supply to engines for the generator when used.

On the other hand, IACS Unified Requirements have not prohibited such closing appliances from being fitted, and some ships currently in service have emergency generator room ventilation louvers fitted with closing appliances, which may be power-operated (closed/opened). In recent years, it was reported that a failure of one such power operating system prevented the corresponding louver from being opened, and the engine for emergency generator was not able to adequately operate because of the lack of air.

Triggered by the above, IACS reviewed the specifications for ventilation louvers and closing appliances fitted to ventilators for generator rooms, and consequently developed a unified requirement (UR) specifying measures to be taken to ensure that the louvers and closing appliances for emergency generator rooms will be opened, whenever engines for emergency generators are used, and can be closed with certainty from a safe position outside the emergency generator room even under fire conditions. This unified requirement was adopted as UR M75 in February 2016.

Accordingly, all relevant requirements were amended to stipulate specifications for ventilation louvers and ventilator closing appliances for emergency generator rooms based upon IACS UR M75 and to accept the provision of ventilation louvers and ventilator closing appliances for emergency generator rooms on the condition that the above-mentioned specifications are satisfied.

Outline of Amendment

The main details of the amendment are as follows:

- (1) Specified that ventilation louvers and ventilator closing appliances can be provided for emergency generator rooms.
- (2) Specified that the ventilation louvers and ventilator closing appliances for emergency generator rooms are to be kept open during normal ship operations for hand-operated types and are to be of a fail-to-open type for power-operated types.
- (3) Specified ventilation louvers and ventilator closing appliances for emergency generator rooms are to be operable from safe positions outside emergency generator rooms even under fire conditions.

Amended Requirements

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B: 2.1.2 Part C: 23.6.7 Part CS: 21.6.7 Part D: 1.3.5 Rules for High Speed Craft Part 2 2.1.2, Part 7 3.6.3, Part 9 1.2.5 Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part C: C23.6.7 Part D: D1.3.5 Guidance for High Speed Craft Part Part 9 1.2.5