

Vacuum Insulated Tanks

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part GF

Reason for Amendment

Part GF of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships specifies requirements for ships using low-flashpoint fuels. Although the Guidance for Part GF does specify details related to requirements for the insulation of fuel containment systems, it had only provided details for tanks insulated using materials such as polyurethane foam directly fitted to the exterior of the tank; it had not provided any details for tanks primarily insulated by vacuum insulation systems: a thermal insulation system which is an outer shell covering the tank designed to maintain a space between the tank and the shell at a negative pressure in order to inhibit heat ingress caused by convection.

Since it is expected that the use of vacuum insulation as a thermal insulation for small tanks such as fuel containment systems will continue to increase, requirements for such insulation systems of vacuum insulated tanks based upon the Society's experience with respect to the approval of such systems to date were formally added to the Guidance for Part GF.

Outline of Amendment

Specified requirements related to the insulation systems of vacuum insulated tanks.

Amended Requirements

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships
Part GF: GF6.4.8, Annex 1 Chapter 13