

Guidelines on Alternative Design and Arrangements for Fire Safety

Amended Rules

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part R

Reason for Amendment

Regulation 17 of SOLAS Chapter II-1 specifies that an engineering analysis for alternative design and arrangements for the fire safety shall be performed based upon the “Guidelines on Alternative Design and Arrangements for Fire Safety” (MSC/Circ.1002); in addition, it also requires that Alternative Design and Arrangements shall provide a degree of safety not less than that achieved by using SOLAS requirements.

At the 53rd session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Fire Protection (FP53) held in February 2009, the establishment of unified life-safety performance criteria for the Alternative Design and Arrangements prescribed in the guideline was proposed and deliberations were subsequently held at the IMO in consideration of it.

At the 97th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC97) held in November 2016, an amendment to the guideline was approved as MSC.1/Circ.1552. This amendment numerically quantified the life-safety performance criteria (e.g., the effects of heat, smoke, toxicity, reduced visibility, etc.) for the Alternative Design and Arrangements prescribed in MSC/Circ.1002 as well as stipulated the unified performance criteria for evaluating sufficient time required for safe escape.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with MSC.1/Circ.1552.

Outline of Amendment

Amended relevant requirements to specify that MSC.1/Circ.1552 is to be included as a guideline to be referenced for the engineering analysis of Alternative Design and Arrangements, in addition to MSC/Circ.1002.

Amended Requirements

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part R 17.1.3