

Amendment on 27 June 2024

Resolved by Technical Committee on 30 January 2024

Unified Interpretation of the IGF Code (Fuel Preparation Rooms Not Located on Open Decks)

Object of Amendment

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part GF

Reason for Amendment

Section 5.8 of the International Code of Safety for Ship Using Gases or Other Low-flashpoint Fuels (IGF Code) specifies requirements for “fuel preparation rooms” in which fuel pumps, compressors, vaporizers, etc., are installed, and this section has already been incorporated into the NK Rules.

Although Section 5.8 specifies that the requirements for tank connection spaces apply to fuel preparation rooms not located on open decks, there are many such requirements, and it was unclear which of them are to be applied.

Therefore, at the 107th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC107) held in June 2023, a unified interpretation clarifying this was adopted as MSC.1/Circ.1667.

Accordingly, relevant requirements are amended based on MSC.1/Circ.1667.

Outline of Amendment

Clarifies which of the requirements for tank connection spaces specified in GF5.8, Part GF of the Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships apply to fuel preparation rooms not located on open decks.

Effective Date and Application

Effective date of this amendment is 27 June 2024.

ID: DD23-27

Amended-Original Requirements Comparison Table
(Unified Interpretation of the IGF Code (Fuel Preparation Rooms Not Located on Open Decks))

Amended	Original	Remarks
<p style="text-align: center;">GUIDANCE FOR THE SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION OF STEEL SHIPS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Part GF SHIPS USING LOW-FLASHPOINT FUELS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GF5 SHIP DESIGN AND ARRANGEMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GF5.8 Fuel Preparation Room Design</p> <p>In applying 5.8, Part GF of the Rules, fuel preparation rooms are to be in accordance with the following <u>(1)</u> to <u>(5)</u>:</p> <p><u>(1)</u> (Omitted)</p> <p><u>(2)</u> (Omitted)</p> <p><u>(3)</u> The fuel preparation room is to be arranged to prevent surrounding hull structure from being exposed to unacceptable cooling, in case of leakage of cryogenic liquids;</p> <p><u>(4)</u> The fuel preparation room is to be designed to withstand the maximum pressure build up during such a leakage as specified in <u>(1)</u> to <u>(3)</u> above. Alternatively, pressure relief venting to a safe location (mast) can be provided; <u>and</u></p> <p><u>(5)</u> <u>The requirements for tank connection spaces to apply to the designs of fuel preparation rooms not located on open decks are as follows:</u></p> <p><u>(a) Access arrangements and associated hazardous areas</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GUIDANCE FOR THE SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION OF STEEL SHIPS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Part GF SHIPS USING LOW-FLASHPOINT FUELS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GF5 SHIP DESIGN AND ARRANGEMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GF5.8 Fuel Preparation Room Design</p> <p>In applying 5.8, Part GF of the Rules, fuel preparation rooms are to be in accordance with the following <u>-1</u> to <u>-4</u>:</p> <p><u>1</u> (Omitted)</p> <p><u>2</u> (Omitted)</p> <p><u>3</u> The fuel preparation room is to be arranged to prevent surrounding hull structure from being exposed to unacceptable cooling, in case of leakage of cryogenic liquids; <u>and</u></p> <p><u>4</u> The fuel preparation room is to be designed to withstand the maximum pressure build up during such a leakage as specified in <u>-1</u> to <u>-3</u> above. Alternatively, pressure relief venting to a safe location (mast) can be provided.</p> <p>(Newly added)</p>	<p>MSC.1/Circ.1667</p>

Amended-Original Requirements Comparison Table
(Unified Interpretation of the IGF Code (Fuel Preparation Rooms Not Located on Open Decks))

Amended	Original	Remarks
<p>i) <u>The bolted hatch requirement in 5.11.3, Part GF of the Rules and the associated Zone 2 hazardous area requirement in 12.5.3(2), Part GF of the Rules do not apply to a fuel preparation room located below deck unless that space can also be defined as a tank connection space using the definition in 2.2.1-15(3), Part GF of the Rules.</u></p> <p>ii) <u>A fuel preparation room opening into another enclosed space on the ship which is a non-hazardous space is required to be fitted with an airlock according to 5.11.2, Part GF of the Rules.</u></p> <p>iii) <u>An access to a fuel preparation room with direct access onto an open deck, or to a semi-enclosed space on deck, does not require an airlock. In the absence of an airlock, the area outside the door will be classified as a hazardous area according to 12.5.2(4) and 12.5.3(1), Part GF of the Rules.</u></p> <p>(b) <u>Bilge wells</u> <u>The bilge well requirements in 15.3.2, Part GF of the Rules only apply to a fuel preparation room located below deck if that fuel preparation room handles fuel in its liquid phase.</u></p> <p>EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION</p> <p>1. The effective date of this amendment is 27 June 2024.</p>		