

SC Fire-Extinguishing Media Restrictions

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(May 2025)

Interpretation of SOLAS regulation II-2/10.11.

SOLAS regulation II-2/10.11.2.2 reads, as follows:

"11.2.2 Use or storage of extinguishing media containing perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) shall be prohibited."

SOLAS regulation II-2/1.2.10 as amended by resolution MSC.532(107) reads as follows:

"2.10 All ships constructed before 1 January 2026 shall comply with regulation 10.11.2, as adopted by resolution MSC.532(107), not later than the date of the first survey on or after 1 January 2026."*

** Refer to the Unified interpretation of the term 'first survey' referred to in SOLAS regulations (MSC.1/Circ.1290)."*

Interpretation

- 1 The phrase "fire-extinguishing media" should include firefighting foams.
- 2 The phrase "containing perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)" should mean present in concentrations of PFOS above 10 mg/kg (0.001% by weight).
- 3 Verification that "extinguishing media containing perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)" are not used or stored on ships, should require the Administration or its recognized organization to review the maker's declaration or laboratory test reports for the extinguishing media covered by the SOLAS Convention, which should be provided to the Administration or to its recognized organization by shipyards, repair yards and equipment makers.
- 4 The declaration issued by the foam maker should contain information about the foam such as, but not limited to: foam type, production period, batch number, reference to type approval / MED Certificate for the foam.
- 5 For extinguishing media installed before 1 January 2026, where the maker's declaration or laboratory test reports are not available, sampling and testing of the extinguishing media on board should be required to be conducted in accordance with a recognized standard.

Note:

1. This Unified Interpretation is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies on ships from 1 January 2026.

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