

Unified Interpretations for Inert Gas Systems

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part R

Reason for Amendment

Chapter 15 of International Code for Fire Safety Systems (FSS Code), which stipulates the specifications for the inert gas systems, was amended as resolutions MSC.367(93) at the 93rd session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC93) in May 2014, with a unified interpretation for said code being subsequently approved as MSC.1/Circ.1582 at MSC98 in June 2017. Some inconsistencies related to the “operational status of the inert gas system”, however, were discovered in some parts of the unified interpretation after it was approved; therefore, these parts were not incorporated with the rest of the unified interpretation into the ClassNK Rules.

To correct above issue, IACS submitted a new proposal for discussion to the 5th session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment (SSE5) held in March 2018, and this proposal was accepted. In addition, IACS further proposed that the term “forward of” used in Chapter 15 of the FSS Code be interpreted to mean “downstream of” and this was also agreed to by the IMO. The revised unified interpretation was approved as MSC.1/Circ.1582(Rev.1) at the 100th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC100) in December 2018.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with MSC.1/Circ.1582(Rev.1).

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Clarified the “operational status of the inert gas system” indicated by control panels.
- (2) Clarified that the term “forward of” is to be interpreted to mean “downstream of”.

Amended Requirements

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships
Part R: R35.2.2