

Subject :

Periodic inspection and maintenance of permanently installed fire extinguishing systems, portable fire extinguishers and air cylinders of breathing apparatus on board the Cyprus flag ships

NKTECHNICAL INFORMATION

No. : 428

Date : 7 December 2001

To shipowners and shipbuilders concerned,

The Cyprus Government has notified the Society of periodic inspection and maintenance of permanently installed fire extinguishing systems, portable fire extinguishers and air cylinders of breathing apparatus on board the Cyprus flag ships as per attached (Circular No. 6/2000).

During the regular Surveys of Safety Equipment, a Surveyor will ascertain that those inspection and maintenance on board the ships is subjected to the Circular, and carry out necessary tests / inspections. It is sincerely recommended that you should take an appropriate action to comply with the requirements of the Circular.

For any questions about the above, please contact Survey Department (Tel : 03-5226-2027 / 2028, Fax : 03-5226-2029, e-mail : svd@classnk.or.jp).

attachment : Circular No. 6/2000

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ClassNK

NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

4-7, KIOI-CHO, CHIYODA-KU,
TOKYO 102-8567, JAPAN.

Periodical Inspection and Maintenance of Permanently installed Fire - Extinguishing Systems, Portable Fire Extinguishers and air cylinders of Breathing Apparatus

Circular No. 6/2000 TEN 1/5 TEN 32/4/7/1

26 May 2000

All Recognised and Authorised Classification Societies All Owners, Managers and Representatives of Ships under the Cyprus Flag

With reference to the above subject, please note the following requirements which will henceforth apply to Cyprus Ships.

1. General

- 1.1 All types of permanently installed fire-fighting systems, all types of portable fire extinguishers and breathing apparatus air cylinders must be subjected to periodical inspection and maintenance every year, by approved shore based service stations.
- 1.2 The attending surveyor may require, based on the results of a periodical inspection, certain containers to be, also, tested hydrostatically.
- 1.3 Hydrostatic testing is also required after repair.
- 1.4 Where the loss of content exceeds 10% for CO₂ and 5% for halon, the container must be recharged.

2. Permanently installed fire-fighting systems

2.1 Fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems

- 1) The quantity of medium in containers must be checked every 12 months
- 2) Periodic hydrostatic testing of high pressure containers must be carried out for not less than 10% of the containers during each 10 years period.
- 3) The test pressure shall not be less than 25 N/mm² for CO₂ containers and 1,5 times the working pressure for Halon containers.

2.2 Fixed foam fire-extinguishing systems in machinery spaces

The first periodical control of foam concentrates stored on board shall be performed after a period of 3 years and, after that, every year.

3. Portable fire extinguishers

3.1 Water and foam

- 1) The charge must be replaced every 12 months Containers which are permanently under pressure must be tested hydrostatically every 5 years. Containers which are not kept under pressure must be tested every 10 years.
- 2) The test pressure shall not be less than 1,5 times the working pressure or 2 N/mm² if the working pressure is unknown.

3.2 CO₂

- 1) The charge must be checked every 12 months and replaced at 5 year intervals
- 2) Containers must be hydrostatically tested every 5 years.
- 3) The test pressure shall not be less than 25 N/mm²

3.3 Halon and Powder with shell kept under pressure

- 1) The charge must be replaced every 2 years.
- 2) Containers must be hydrostatically tested every 5 years
- 3) The test pressure shall not be less 1,5 times the working pressure or 2 N/mm² if the working pressure is unknown.

3.4 Powder with shell not kept under pressure

- 1) The charge must be checked every 12 months and replaced at 5 year intervals.
- 2) Containers must be hydrostatically tested every 10 years.
- 3) The test pressure shall not be less than 1.5 times the working pressure or 2 N/mm² if the working pressure is unknown.

3.5 Propellant bottles of non-pressurized fire extinguishers.

- 1) The content must be checked every year
- 2) Bottles must be hydrostatically tested every 5 years
- 3) The test pressure shall not be less than 2 times the working pressure or 25N/mm² in the case of a CO₂ type with safety devices or 35 N/mm² in the case of a CO₂ type without safety devices.

3.6 Spare Charges

- 1) For fire extinguishers of the same type, capable of being recharged on board, the spare charges must be 100% for the first 10 extinguishers and 50% for the remaining extinguishers but not more than 60 (fractions to be rounded off to next number).
- 2) For fire extinguishers which cannot be recharged by the crew, additional portable fire extinguishers of the same quantity, type, capacity and number as determined in 1 above should be provided in lieu of spare charges.
- 3) Instructions for recharging should be carried on board. Only refills approved for the fire extinguisher in question may be used for recharging. Partially emptied extinguishers should also be recharged.

4. Air cylinders for breathing apparatus

4.1 Servicing

- 1) The cylinders must be hydrostatically tested every 5 years
- 2) The test pressure shall not be less than 1.5 times the working pressure

4.2 Spare charges

For every breathing apparatus set, 200% spare charges are required.

S. S. Serghiou

Director

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