
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1998 No. 1012

**The Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection:
Large Ships) Regulations 1998**

PART II

FIRE PREVENTION AND FIRE APPLIANCES

PASSENGER SHIPS

SHIPS OF CLASS I

Requirements for ships constructed on or after 1st September 1984

6.—(1) In every ship of Class I there shall be provided—

- (a) in each special category space an effective power-ventilation system sufficient to give at least 10 air changes per hour; the Secretary of State may require an increased number of air changes when vehicles are being loaded and unloaded;
- (b) in each cargo space, other than a special category space intended for the carriage of motor vehicles with fuel in their tanks for their own propulsion, an effective power-ventilation system sufficient to give at least 10 air changes per hour for ships carrying more than 36 passengers and 6 air changes per hour for ships carrying not more than 36 passengers.

(2) The power-ventilation systems referred to in paragraph (1) shall be entirely separate from other ventilation systems and shall be operated at all times when vehicles are in such spaces. Ventilation ducts serving such spaces capable of being effectively sealed shall be separated for each such space. The system shall be capable of being controlled from a position outside such spaces. In addition—

- (a) the ventilation shall be such as to prevent air stratification and the formation of air pockets;
- (b) means shall be provided to indicate on the navigating bridge any loss or reduction of the required ventilating capacity;
- (c) arrangements shall be provided to permit a rapid shut-down and effective closure of the ventilation system in case of fire, taking into account the weather and sea conditions.

Machinery spaces of Category A

7.—(1) In every ship of Class I there shall be provided for the protection of any machinery space of Category A at least one of the following fixed fire-extinguishing systems—

- (a) a fixed pressure water-spraying system complying with the requirements of Schedule 2 in Merchant Shipping Notice MSN 1666;
- (b) a fixed gas fire-extinguishing system complying with the requirements of Schedule 4 in Merchant Shipping Notice MSN 1666; or

- (c) a fixed high-expansion foam fire-extinguishing system complying with the requirements of Schedule 8 in Merchant Shipping Notice MSN 1666.
- (2) If the engine and boiler rooms are not entirely separated from each other by a bulkhead or if fuel oil can drain from the boiler room into the engine room, the combined engine and boiler rooms shall, for the purpose of this regulation, be regarded as a single space.
- (3) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (1) there shall be provided—
 - (a) in each boiler room one or more foam fire extinguishers each of at least 135 litres capacity or carbon dioxide fire extinguishers each of at least 45 kilogrammes capacity placed in such positions as to be readily accessible in the event of fire and sufficient in number to enable foam or carbon dioxide to be directed on to any part of the boiler room and spaces containing any part of the oil fuel installation;
 - (b) in each boiler room at least one portable foam-applicator unit complying with Schedule 6 in Merchant Shipping Notice MSN 1665;
 - (c) in each firing space and in each space which contains any part of any oil fuel installation at least two portable fire extinguishers suitable for extinguishing oil fires;
 - (d) in each firing space a receptacle containing at least 0.3 cubic metre of sand or other dry material suitable for extinguishing oil fires together with a scoop for its distribution or, alternatively, an additional portable fire extinguisher suitable for extinguishing oil fires.
- (4) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (1) there shall be provided in any space containing internal combustion type machinery—
 - (a) one or more foam fire extinguishers of at least 45 litres or carbon dioxide extinguishers of at least 16 kilogrammes capacity; the extinguishers shall be sited so as to be readily accessible in the event of fire and they shall be sufficient in number to enable foam or carbon dioxide to be directed on to any part of the fuel and lubricating oil pressure systems, gearing and other areas of high fire risk;
 - (b) at least one portable foam-applicator unit complying with the requirements of Schedule 6 in Merchant Shipping Notice MSN 1665;
 - (c) portable fire extinguishers suitable for extinguishing oil fires sufficient in number to ensure that at least one extinguisher is not more than 10 metres walking distance from any position within the space: provided that there shall be not less than two such extinguishers; and
 - (d) in passenger ships carrying more than 36 passengers each machinery space of Category A shall be provided with at least two suitable water-fog applicators.

Machinery spaces containing steam turbines or enclosed steam engines

- 8.—(1)** In every ship of Class I there shall be provided in spaces containing steam turbines or enclosed pressure-lubricated steam engines used either for main propulsion, or having in the aggregate a total power of not less than 375 kW for auxiliary purposes—
- (a) foam fire extinguishers each of at least 45 litres capacity or carbon dioxide fire extinguishers each of at least 16 kilogrammes capacity sufficient in number to enable foam or carbon dioxide to be directed on to any part of the pressure lubrication system and on to any part of the casings enclosing pressure lubricated parts of the turbine, engines or associated gearing and any other areas of high fire risk; provided that such extinguishers shall not be required if equivalent protection is provided in such spaces by a fixed fire-extinguishing system fitted in compliance with regulation 7(1);
 - (b) portable fire extinguishers suitable for extinguishing oil fires sufficient in number to ensure that at least one extinguisher is not more than 10 metres walking distance from any position within the space: provided that there shall be not less than two such extinguishers;