

Subject

Maintenance, inspection and test of Fire-Protection Systems and Appliances on board the Cyprus-registered ships

ClassNK

Technical Information

No. TEC-0960
Date 24 July 2013

To whom it may concern

The Cyprus Government has informed ClassNK of maintenance, inspection and test of Fire-Protection System and Appliances on board the Cyprus-registered ships as per attached (Circular No.14/2013). The previous ClassNK Technical Information No.TEC-0923 is now superseded.

The provisions of this circular become applicable for each ship on the first safety equipment related survey on or after 31 May 2013.

For any questions about the above, please contact:

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1. Circular No.14/2013
2. MSC.1/Circ.1432

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REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
MINISTRY
OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS



DEPARTMENT
OF
MERCHANT SHIPPING
LIMASSOL

File: DMS 1.5 & DMS 32.4.7.1

Circular No. 14/2013

30 May 2013

Registered owners, registered bareboat charterers,
managers, operators and masters of
ships flying the Cyprus flag

Recognized and Authorized Classification Societies

Subject: **Periodical inspection and maintenance of:**

- (1) Fixed fire detection and extinguishing systems,
- (2) Portable and non-portable fire extinguishers,
- (3) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus,
- (4) Emergency Escape Breathing Apparatus,
- (5) Oxygen bottles for medical use,
- (6) Self-contained air support systems for lifeboats, and
- (7) Compressed air cylinders used in inflatable liferafts

1 Introduction

1.1 The Maritime Safety Committee at its ninetieth session (16 to 25 May 2012) approved MSC.1/Circ.1432 on Revised Guidelines for the Maintenance and Inspection of Fire Protection Systems and Appliances.

1.2 The revised guidelines apply to all ships and provide the minimum recommended level of maintenance and inspections for fire protection systems and appliances. This information may be used as a basis for the ship's onboard maintenance plan required by SOLAS Regulation II-2/14.

1.3 The revised guidelines do not address maintenance and inspection of fixed carbon dioxide systems or of portable fire extinguishers. However, MSC.1/Circ.1318 on Guidelines for the maintenance and inspections of fixed carbon dioxide fire-extinguishing systems and Resolution A.951(23) on Improved Guidelines for marine portable fire extinguishers provide related guidance.



1.4 Paragraph 3 of the annex to MSC.1/Circ.1432, on **maintenance and testing**, states that: “*Certain maintenance procedures and inspections may be performed by competent crew members who have completed an advanced fire-fighting training course, while others should be performed by persons specially trained in the maintenance of such systems. The onboard maintenance plan should indicate which parts of the recommended inspections and maintenance are to be completed by trained personnel.*”

2 General requirements

2.1 The guidelines set out in MSC.1/Circ.1432 should be applied as these are supplemented by the following paragraphs of this circular.

2.2 All fixed fire detection and extinguishing systems, including drenching systems, all portable and non-portable fire extinguishers and all other systems and appliances referred to in this circular should, as a rule, be inspected and maintained in accordance with their respective manufacturer’s recommendations.

2.3 Inspections and checks which are not explicitly stated as to be done by a third party may be done by a competent person who may be a senior member of the ship’s crew, who has successfully completed an appropriate training (at least an *advanced fire-fighting training course*).

2.4 In case the manufacturer of an equipment or system has specified intervals which are more frequent than those specified below or criteria which are more stringent than those specified below, such intervals or criteria shall apply in lieu of those specified below.

2.5 Inspections and checks should always be carried out in accordance with the recommendations or guidance provided by the manufacturer of the equipment or system.

2.6 In addition, as a rule, third party inspection and maintenance (third party inspection) should be done by a service provider which:

- (1) is authorized or accredited in this respect by the manufacturer of the system or of the appliances; or
- (2) in the absence of such service provider, by a service provider which is accredited in this respect by:
 - (a) the classification society which is issuing to the ship, on behalf of this Government, the related statutory certificate; or
 - (b) by one of the other classification societies which are authorized to issue, on behalf of this Government, the related statutory certificate to ships which are classed with them, provided the accreditation of the service provider by the other classification society is acceptable to the classification society which is issuing to the ship, on behalf of this Government, the related statutory certificate.

2.7 Third party inspection by a service provider which does not fall under any one of the categories listed above could be done, provided that the prior authorization of this Department has been obtained.

2.8 Furthermore, the following general rules apply:

- (1) the system or an individual part or unit of the system and appliance should be recharged when the loss of contents of the system as a whole or of an individual part or unit of the system or of an appliance exceeds 10 per cent; and
- (2) in all circumstances the attending surveyor may require, if he/she deems it fit, the thorough inspection, hydrostatic testing or the recharging of a system or of an individual part or unit of the system or of an appliance.

3 Specific requirements

3.1.1 In the absence of related recommendations by the manufacturer of the system or of the appliance this should undergo third party inspection and/or testing as specified below.

3.1.2 The time interval specified below should be counted from the date of the completion of the construction of a system or of an appliance or from the date of the initial hydrostatic testing, as the case may be or in the absence of such date from the date of completion of the initial survey of the ship upon construction and thereafter from the date of completion of the previous third party inspection or testing.

3.1.3 The third party inspections should preferably be carried out within a window of “+/- three months” from the anniversary of the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate or of the Passenger Ship Safety Certificate, as the case may be. However, the “+/- three months” window does not apply to the anniversary date of the third party inspection of the system or of the appliance. This provision should be read *mutatis mutandis* in relation to ships or crafts which are neither cargo nor passenger ships.

3.1.4 The Department may, upon request and in exceptional cases, extend the time interval specified below for limited periods from the anniversary of the previous third party inspection.

3.2 Fixed fire detection and extinguishing systems

3.3.1 Fixed fire detection and extinguishing systems are subject to third party inspection at interval not exceeding 2 years.

3.3 Fixed gas fire fighting systems

3.3.1 The quantity of gas fire extinguishing medium should be checked at intervals not exceeding 2 years.

3.3.1.1 For ships which are fitted with a fixed carbon dioxide fire extinguishing system, in case the loss of content of the system as a whole or of an individual part or

unit of the system exceeds 10 per cent, the system or the individual part or unit of the system should be recharged.

3.3.1.2 For ships which are fitted with a fixed gas fire extinguishing system other than carbon dioxide, in case the loss of content of the system as a whole or of an individual part or unit of the system exceeds 5 per cent, the system or the individual part or unit of the system should be recharged.

3.3.2 The chemical composition of foam medium used in fixed fire extinguishing systems should be tested by a third party no later than three years after the date it was installed on board and, thereafter, at yearly intervals. For the various types of foam please referred to the related provisions of MSC.1/Circ.1432.

3.3.3 A hydrostatic test and internal examination of 10 per cent of cylinders containing the system's extinguishing agent and of the pilot cylinders should be carried out by a third party at intervals not exceeding 10 years. If one or more cylinders fail, a total of 50 per cent of the onboard cylinders should be tested. If further cylinders fail, all cylinders should be tested.

3.3.4 The control valves of fixed fire extinguishing systems should be internally inspected by a third party at interval not exceeding 5 years.

3.3.5 The flexible hoses should be internally inspected and hydrostatically tested by a third party or, alternatively, should be replaced, at intervals not exceeding every 10 years.

3.4 Portable and non-portable fire extinguishers

3.4.1 Portable and non-portable fire extinguishers are subject to third party inspection at intervals not exceeding 2 years.

3.4.2 The quantity of fire extinguishing medium and the quantity of propellant medium should be checked at yearly intervals. In case the loss of contents exceeds 10 per cent the extinguisher should be recharged.

3.4.3 The flexible hoses, applicators and control valves, including those of the propellant medium, should be visually inspected at yearly intervals and should be replaced when necessary.

3.4.4 All portable and non-portable fire extinguishers should be internally inspected and hydrostatically tested by a third party at interval not exceeding 10 years.

3.5 Spare charges for portable and non-portable fire extinguishers

3.5.1 Spare charges should be provided on board for 100 per cent for the first 10 portable and 50 per cent for the remaining extinguishers capable of being recharged on board. Not more than 60 total (fractions to be rounded off to next number) spare charges are required. Instructions for recharging shall be carried onboard.

3.5.2 For fire extinguishers which cannot be recharged on board, additional portable fire extinguishers of the same quantity, type, capacity and number as determined in paragraph 3.4.1 above shall be provided in lieu of spare charges.

3.6 Self-contained breathing apparatus

3.6.1 The self-contained breathing apparatus are subject to third party inspection at intervals not exceeding 2 years, unless a statutory requirement stipulates otherwise. For example, paragraph 14.2.6 of the IBC Code states that *“The breathing apparatus should be inspected at least once a month by a responsible officer, and the inspection recorded in the ship's log-book. The equipment should be inspected and tested by an expert at least once a year.”*

3.6.2 The mask, flexible hoses, breathing regulator, flow meters and control valves should be inspected and the quantity and quality of air of self-contained breathing apparatus should be checked:

- (1) at yearly intervals; and
- (2) by a third party at intervals not exceeding 2 years.

In case the loss of content of the system as a whole or of an individual part or unit of the system exceeds 10 per cent, the system or the individual part or unit of the system should be recharged.

3.6.3 The quality of air of shipborne air charging system should be checked at yearly intervals and by a third party at intervals not exceeding 2 years.

3.6.4 The air bottles of the self-contained breathing apparatus, including those provided as spares and any pressure vessels of the shipborne air charging system should be internally inspected and hydrostatically tested by a third party at interval not exceeding 5 years.

3.6.5 For every self-contained breathing apparatus, 200 per cent spare charged air bottles should be provided on board, unless there are means on board for charging the air bottles or unless the type of the ship requires more spare charged air bottles to be carried on board.

3.7 Emergency Escape Breathing Apparatus

3.8.1 Section 3.6 applies also *mutatis mutandis* in relation to Emergency Escape Breathing Apparatus.

3.8 Oxygen bottles for medical use

3.8.1 The mask, flexible hoses, breathing regulator, flow meters and control valves should be inspected and the quantity of medical oxygen should be checked:

- (1) at yearly intervals; and
- (2) by a third party at intervals not exceeding 2 years.

In case the loss of contents of the system as a whole or of an individual part or unit of the system exceeds 10 per cent, the system or the individual part or unit of the system should be recharged.

3.8.2 Medical oxygen has a limited shelf life of 3 years and should be replaced before the expiry date.

3.8.3 The cylinders containing medical oxygen should to be internally inspected and hydrostatically tested by a third party at intervals not exceeding 5 years.

3.8.4 For ships which are required to comply with the requirements of Column A or B of Appendix 14 of the Medical First Aid Guide (MFAG) the following should be available in the ship's hospital:

- .1 a quantity of medical oxygen not less than 40 litres @ 200 bar, in non portable medical oxygen cylinder assembled for direct use with 1 flow meter unit with two ports for supplying oxygen for 2 persons at the same time. If more than 1 non-portable cylinder is used there must be 2 flow meter units for supplying oxygen to 2 persons at the same time; and
- .2 one complete portable set with a quantity of medical oxygen not less than 2 litres @ 200 bar ready for use and a spare cylinder with a quantity of medical oxygen not less than 2 litres @ 200 bar.

3.8.5 For ships which are not required to comply with the requirements of the MFAG a quantity of medical oxygen not less than 2 litres @ 200 bar in a portable cylinder and a spare quantity medical oxygen not less than 2 litres @ 200 bar in a portable cylinder.

3.9 Self-contained air support system for lifeboats

3.9.1 The flexible hoses, breathing regulator, the control valves and any masks should be visually inspected and the quantity and quality of air should be checked:

- (1) at yearly intervals; and
- (2) by a third party at intervals not exceeding 2 years,

In case the loss of contents of the system as a whole or of an individual part or unit of the system exceeds 10 per cent, the system or the individual part or unit of the system should be recharged.

3.9.2 The air cylinders should be internally inspected and hydrostatically tested by a third party at intervals not exceeding 5 years.

3.10 Compressed air cylinders used in inflatable liferafts

3.10.1 The air cylinders used in inflatable liferafts should be internally inspected and hydrostatically tested by a third party at interval not exceeding 5 years.

4 Implementation

4.1 The provisions of this circular become applicable for each ship on the first safety equipment related survey on or after 31 May 2013.

5 Related documents

5.1 The related documents are SOLAS chapter II-2, FSS Code, Assembly resolution A.951(23), MSC circulars 670, 847, and 849 and MSC.1/Circulars 1312 and 1318 and 1432 published by the International Maritime Organization.

6 Previous circulars

6.1 This Circular supersedes Circular No. 23/2012 which is hereby revoked.

This Circular must be placed on board ships flying the Cyprus Flag.



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MSC.1/Circ.1432
31 May 2012

**REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION OF
FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES**

- 1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its ninetieth session (16 to 25 May 2012), having considered a proposal by the Sub-Committee on Fire Protection, at its fifty-fifth session, and recognizing the need to include maintenance and inspection guidelines for the latest advancements in fire-protection systems and appliances, approved the Revised Guidelines for the maintenance and inspection of fire protection systems and appliances, as set out in the annex.
- 2 Member Governments are invited to apply the annexed Guidelines when performing maintenance, testing and inspections in accordance with SOLAS regulation II-2/14.2.2.1 on or after 31 May 2013 and bring the annexed Guidelines to the attention of shipowners, shipmasters, ships' officers and crew and all other parties concerned.
- 3 This circular supersedes MSC/Circ.850.

ANNEX

REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION OF FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES

1 Application

These Guidelines apply to all ships and provide the minimum recommended level of maintenance and inspections for fire protection systems and appliances. This information may be used as a basis for the ship's onboard maintenance plan required by SOLAS regulation II-2/14. These Guidelines do not address maintenance and inspection of fixed carbon dioxide systems or portable fire extinguishers. Refer to the comprehensive instructions provided in the Guidelines for the maintenance and inspections of fixed carbon dioxide fire-extinguishing systems (MSC.1/Circ.1318) for fixed carbon dioxide systems, and in the Improved Guidelines for marine portable fire extinguishers (resolution A.951(23)) for portable fire extinguishers.

2 Operational readiness

All fire protection systems and appliances should at all times be in good order and readily available for immediate use while the ship is in service. If a fire protection system is undergoing maintenance, testing or repair, then suitable arrangements should be made to ensure safety is not diminished through the provision of alternate fixed or portable fire protection equipment or other measures. The onboard maintenance plan should include provisions for this purpose.

3 Maintenance and testing

3.1 Onboard maintenance and inspections should be carried out in accordance with the ship's maintenance plan, which should include the minimum elements listed in sections 4 to 10 of these Guidelines.

3.2 Certain maintenance procedures and inspections may be performed by competent crew members who have completed an advanced fire-fighting training course, while others should be performed by persons specially trained in the maintenance of such systems. The onboard maintenance plan should indicate which parts of the recommended inspections and maintenance are to be completed by trained personnel.

3.3 Inspections should be carried out by the crew to ensure that the indicated weekly, monthly, quarterly, annual, two-year, five-year and ten-year actions are taken for the specified equipment, if provided. Records of the inspections should be carried on board the ship, or may be computer-based. In cases where the inspections and maintenance are carried out by trained service technicians other than the ship's crew, inspection reports should be provided at the completion of the testing.

3.4 In addition to the onboard maintenance and inspections stated in these Guidelines, manufacturer's maintenance and inspection guidelines should be followed.

3.5 Where particular arrangements create practical difficulties, alternative testing and maintenance procedures should be to the satisfaction of the Administration.

4 Weekly testing and inspections

4.1 Fixed fire detection and alarm systems

Verify all fire detection and fire alarm control panel indicators are functional by operating the lamp/indicator test switch.

4.2 Fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems

- .1 verify all fixed fire-extinguishing system control panel indicators are functional by operating the lamp/indicator test switch; and
- .2 verify all control/section valves are in the correct position.

4.3 Fire doors

Verify all fire door control panel indicators, if provided, are functional by operating the lamp/indicator switch.

4.4 Public address and general alarm systems

Verify all public address systems and general alarm systems are functioning properly.

4.5 Breathing apparatus

Examine all breathing apparatus and EEBD cylinder gauges to confirm they are in the correct pressure range.

4.6 Low-location lighting

Verify low-location lighting systems are functional by switching off normal lighting in selected locations.

4.7 Water mist, water spray and sprinkler systems

- .1 verify all control panel indicators and alarms are functional;
- .2 visually inspect pump unit and its fittings; and
- .3 check the pump unit valve positions, if valves are not locked, as applicable.

5 Monthly testing and inspections

Monthly inspections should be carried out to ensure that the indicated actions are taken for the specified equipment.

5.1 Fire mains, fire pumps, hydrants, hoses and nozzles

- .1 verify all fire hydrants, hose and nozzles are in place, properly arranged, and are in serviceable condition;
- .2 operate all fire pumps to confirm that they continue to supply adequate pressure; and

- .3 emergency fire pump fuel supply adequate, and heating system in satisfactory condition, if applicable.

5.2 Fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems

Verify containers/cylinders fitted with pressure gauges are in the proper range and the installation free from leakage.

5.3 Foam fire-extinguishing systems

Verify all control and section valves are in the proper open or closed position, and all pressure gauges are in the proper range.

5.4 Water mist, water spray and sprinkler systems

- .1 verify all control, pump unit and section valves are in the proper open or closed position;
- .2 verify sprinkler pressure tanks or other means have correct levels of water;
- .3 test automatic starting arrangements on all system pumps so designed;
- .4 verify all standby pressure and air/gas pressure gauges are within the proper pressure ranges; and
- .5 test a selected sample of system section valves for flow and proper initiation of alarms.
(**Note** – The valves selected for testing should be chosen to ensure that all valves are tested within a one-year period.)

5.5 Firefighter's outfits

Verify lockers providing storage for fire-fighting equipment contain their full inventory and equipment is in serviceable condition.

5.6 Fixed dry chemical powder systems

Verify all control and section valves are in the proper open or closed position, and all pressure gauges are in the proper range.

5.7 Fixed aerosol extinguishing systems

- .1 verify all electrical connections and/or manual operating stations are properly arranged, and are in proper condition; and
- .2 verify the actuation system/control panel circuits are within manufacturer's specifications.

5.8 Portable foam applicators

Verify all portable foam applicators are in place, properly arranged, and are in proper condition.

5.9 Wheeled (mobile) fire extinguishers

Verify all extinguishers are in place, properly arranged, and are in proper condition.

5.10 Fixed fire detection and alarm systems

Test a sample of detectors and manual call points so that all devices have been tested within five years. For very large systems the sample size should be determined by the Administration.

6 Quarterly testing and inspections

Quarterly inspections should be carried out to ensure that the indicated actions are taken for the specified equipment:

6.1 Fire mains, fire pumps, hydrants, hoses and nozzles

Verify international shore connection(s) is in serviceable condition.

6.2 Foam fire-extinguishing systems

Verify the proper quantity of foam concentrate is provided in the foam system storage tank.

6.3 Ventilation systems and fire dampers

Test all fire dampers for local operation.

6.4 Fire doors

Test all fire doors located in main vertical zone bulkheads for local operation.

7 Annual testing and inspections

Annual inspections should be carried out to ensure that the indicated actions are taken for the specified equipment:

7.1 Fire mains, fire pumps, hydrants, hoses and nozzles

- .1 visually inspect all accessible components for proper condition;
- .2 flow test all fire pumps for proper pressure and capacity. Test emergency fire pump with isolation valves closed;
- .3 test all hydrant valves for proper operation;
- .4 pressure test a sample of fire hoses at the maximum fire main pressure, so that all fire hoses are tested within five years;
- .5 verify all fire pump relief valves, if provided, are properly set;
- .6 examine all filters/strainers to verify they are free of debris and contamination; and
- .7 nozzle size/type correct, maintained and working.

7.2 Fixed fire detection and fire alarm systems

- .1 test all fire detection systems and fire detection systems used to automatically release fire-extinguishing systems for proper operation, as appropriate;
- .2 visually inspect all accessible detectors for evidence of tampering obstruction, etc., so that all detectors are inspected within one year; and
- .3 test emergency power supply switchover.

7.3 Fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems

- .1 visually inspect all accessible components for proper condition;
- .2 externally examine all high pressure cylinders for evidence of damage or corrosion;
- .3 check the hydrostatic test date of all storage containers;
- .4 functionally test all fixed system audible and visual alarms;
- .5 verify all control/section valves are in the correct position;
- .6 check the connections of all pilot release piping and tubing for tightness;
- .7 examine all flexible hoses in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations;
- .8 test all fuel shut-off controls connected to fire-protection systems for proper operation;
- .9 the boundaries of the protected space should be visually inspected to confirm that no modifications have been made to the enclosure that have created uncloseable openings that would render the system ineffective; and
- .10 if cylinders are installed inside the protected space, verify the integrity of the double release lines inside the protected space, and check low pressure or circuit integrity monitors on release cabinet, as applicable.

7.4 Foam fire-extinguishing systems

- .1 visually inspect all accessible components for proper condition;
- .2 functionally test all fixed system audible alarms;
- .3 flow test all water supply and foam pumps for proper pressure and capacity, and confirm flow at the required pressure in each section (Ensure all piping is thoroughly flushed with fresh water after service.);
- .4 test all system cross connections to other sources of water supply for proper operation;
- .5 verify all pump relief valves, if provided, are properly set;

- .6 examine all filters/strainers to verify they are free of debris and contamination;
- .7 verify all control/section valves are in the correct position;
- .8 blow dry compressed air or nitrogen through the discharge piping or otherwise confirm the pipework and nozzles of high expansion foam systems are clear of any obstructions, debris and contamination. This may require the removal of nozzles, if applicable;
- .9 take samples from all foam concentrates carried on board and subject them to the periodical control tests in MSC.1/Circ.1312, for low expansion foam, or MSC/Circ.670 for high expansion foam.
(**Note:** Except for non-alcohol resistant foam, the first test need not be conducted until 3 years after being supplied to the ship.); and
- .10 test all fuel shut-off controls connected to fire-protection systems for proper operation.

7.5 Water mist, water spray and sprinkler systems

- .1 verify proper operation of all water mist, water-spray and sprinkler systems using the test valves for each section;
- .2 visually inspect all accessible components for proper condition;
- .3 externally examine all high pressure cylinders for evidence of damage or corrosion;
- .4 check the hydrostatic test date of all high pressure cylinders;
- .5 functionally test all fixed system audible and visual alarms;
- .6 flow test all pumps for proper pressure and capacity;
- .7 test all antifreeze systems for adequate freeze protection;
- .8 test all system cross connections to other sources of water supply for proper operation;
- .9 verify all pump relief valves, if provided, are properly set;
- .10 examine all filters/strainers to verify they are free of debris and contamination;
- .11 verify all control/section valves are in the correct position;
- .12 blow dry compressed air or nitrogen through the discharge piping of dry pipe systems, or otherwise confirm the pipework and nozzles are clear of any obstructions. This may require the removal of nozzles, if applicable;
- .13 test emergency power supply switchover, where applicable;

- .14 visually inspect all sprinklers focusing in areas where sprinklers are subject to aggressive atmosphere (like saunas, spas, kitchen areas) and subject to physical damage (like luggage handling areas, gyms, play rooms, etc.) so that all sprinklers are inspected within one year;
- .15 check for any changes that may affect the system such as obstructions by ventilation ducts, pipes, etc.;
- .16 test a minimum of one section in each open head water mist system by flowing water through the nozzles. The sections tested should be chosen so that all sections are tested within a five-year period; and
- .17 test a minimum of two automatic sprinklers or automatic water mist nozzles for proper operation.

7.6 Ventilation systems and fire dampers

- .1 test all fire dampers for remote operation;
- .2 verify galley exhaust ducts and filters are free of grease build-up; and
- .3 test all ventilation controls interconnected with fire-protection systems for proper operation.

7.7 Fire doors

Test all remotely controlled fire doors for proper release.

7.8 Breathing apparatus

- .1 check breathing apparatus air recharging systems, if fitted, for air quality;
- .2 check all breathing apparatus face masks and air demand valves are in serviceable condition; and
- .3 check EEBDs according to maker's instructions.

7.9 Fixed dry chemical powder systems

- .1 visually inspect all accessible components for proper condition;
- .2 verify the pressure regulators are in proper order and within calibration; and
- .3 agitate the dry chemical powder charge with nitrogen in accordance with system manufacturer's instructions.
(**Note:** Due to the powder's affinity for moisture, any nitrogen gas introduced for agitation must be moisture free.)

7.10 Fixed aerosol extinguishing systems

Verify condensed or dispersed aerosol generators have not exceeded their mandatory replacement date. Pneumatic or electric actuators should be demonstrated working, as far as practicable.

7.11 Portable foam applicators

- .1 verify all portable foam applicators are set to the correct proportioning ratio for the foam concentrate supplied and the equipment is in proper order;
- .2 verify all portable containers or portable tanks containing foam concentrate remain factory sealed, and the manufacturer's recommended service life interval has not been exceeded;
- .3 portable containers or portable tanks containing foam concentrate, excluding protein based concentrates, less than 10 years old, that remain factory sealed can normally be accepted without the periodical foam control tests required in MSC.1/Circ.1312 being carried out;
- .4 protein based foam concentrate portable containers and portable tanks should be thoroughly checked and, if more than five years old, the foam concentrate should be subjected to the periodical foam control tests required in MSC.1/Circ.1312, or renewed; and
- .5 the foam concentrates of any non-sealed portable containers and portable tanks, and portable containers and portable tanks where production data is not documented, should be subjected to the periodical foam control tests required in MSC.1/Circ.1312.

7.12 Wheeled (mobile) fire extinguishers

- .1 perform periodical inspections in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions;
- .2 visually inspect all accessible components for proper condition;
- .3 check the hydrostatic test date of each cylinder; and
- .4 for dry powder extinguishers, invert extinguisher to ensure powder is agitated.

7.13 Galley and deep fat cooking fire-extinguishing systems

Check galley and deep fat cooking fire-extinguishing systems in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

8 Two-year testing and inspections

Two-year inspections should be carried out to ensure that the indicated actions are taken for the specified equipment.

8.1 Fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems

- .1 all high pressure extinguishing agents cylinders and pilot cylinders should be weighed or have their contents verified by other reliable means to confirm that the available charge in each is above 95 per cent of the nominal charge. Cylinders containing less than 95 per cent of the nominal charge should be refilled; and

- .2 blow dry compressed air or nitrogen through the discharge piping or otherwise confirm the pipe work and nozzles are clear of any obstructions. This may require the removal of nozzles, if applicable.

8.2 Fixed dry chemical powder systems

- .1 blow dry nitrogen through the discharge piping to confirm that the pipe work and nozzles are clear of any obstructions;
- .2 operationally test local and remote controls and section valves;
- .3 verify the contents of propellant gas cylinders (including remote operating stations);
- .4 test a sample of dry chemical powder for moisture content; and
- .5 subject the powder containment vessel, safety valve and discharge hoses to a full working pressure test.

9 Five-year service

At least once every five years, the following inspections should be carried out for the specified equipment.

9.1 Fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems

Perform internal inspection of all control valves.

9.2 Foam fire-extinguishing systems

- .1 perform internal inspection of all control valves;
- .2 flush all high expansion foam system piping with fresh water, drain and purge with air;
- .3 check all nozzles to prove they are clear of debris; and
- .4 test all foam proportioners or other foam mixing devices to confirm that the mixing ratio tolerance is within +30 to -10% of the nominal mixing ratio defined by the system approval.

9.3 Water mist, water spray and sprinkler systems

- .1 flush all ro-ro deck deluge system piping with water, drain and purge with air;
- .2 perform internal inspection of all control/section valves; and
- .3 check condition of any batteries, or renew in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.

9.4 Breathing apparatus

Perform hydrostatic testing of all steel self-contained breathing apparatus cylinders. Aluminium and composite cylinders should be tested to the satisfaction of the Administration.

9.5 Low-location lighting

Test the luminance of all systems in accordance with the procedures in resolution A.752(18).

9.6 Wheeled (mobile) fire extinguishers

Visually examine at least one extinguisher of each type manufactured in the same year and kept on board.

10 Ten-year service

At least once every 10 years, the following inspections should be carried out for the specified equipment:

10.1 Fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems

- .1 perform a hydrostatic test and internal examination of 10 per cent of the system's extinguishing agent and pilot cylinders. If one or more cylinders fail, a total of 50 per cent of the onboard cylinders should be tested. If further cylinders fail, all cylinders should be tested;
- .2 flexible hoses should be replaced at the intervals recommended by the manufacturer and not exceeding every 10 years; and
- .3 if permitted by the Administration, visual inspection and NDT (non-destructive testing) of halon cylinders may be performed in lieu of hydrostatic testing.

10.2 Water mist, water spray and sprinkler systems

Perform a hydrostatic test and internal examination for gas and water pressure cylinders according to flag Administration guidelines or, where these do not exist, EN 1968:2002 + A1.

10.3 Fixed dry chemical powder systems

Subject all powder containment vessels to hydrostatic or non-destructive testing carried out by an accredited service agent.

10.4 Fixed aerosol extinguishing systems

Condensed or dispersed aerosol generators to be renewed in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.

10.5 Wheeled (mobile) fire extinguishers

All extinguishers together with propellant cartridges should be hydrostatically tested by specially trained persons in accordance with recognized standards or the manufacturer's instructions.