



**CỤC ĐĂNG KIỂM VIỆT NAM - VIETNAM REGISTER  
PHÒNG TÀU BIỂN**

**SEA-GOING SHIP CLASSIFICATION AND REGISTRY DEPARTMENT**

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**THÔNG BÁO KỸ THUẬT- TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

**Ngày: 27/03/2006**  
**Số thông báo: 011KT/06TB**

*Nội dung: Trang bị bộ quần áo bơi chống mất nhiệt cho tàu hoạt động tuyến quốc tế theo Quy định III/32.3 của SOLAS 74.*

**Kính gửi: Các chủ tàu khai thác tàu tuyến quốc tế**

**Các Chi cục Đăng kiểm tàu biển**

Liên quan đến việc trang bị Bộ quần áo bơi chống mất nhiệt cho tàu biển theo Quy định III/32.3 của Công ước SOLAS 74, chúng tôi đã có Thông báo kỹ thuật số 021KT/05TB ngày 18/11/2005 hướng dẫn chi tiết về vấn đề này.

Chúng tôi xin gửi đến các Quý Cơ quan Thông báo kỹ thuật số 021/KT05TB.E (phiên bản tiếng Anh) ngày 18/11/2005. Đề nghị các chủ tàu sao chụp Thông báo kỹ thuật số 021/KT05TB.E và lưu trên các tàu của mình, phục vụ cho việc kiểm tra của cơ quan đăng kiểm, chính quyền cảng, ....

Thông báo kỹ thuật này được nêu trong thư mục: *Tàu biển/ Thông báo kỹ thuật* của trang tin điện tử của Cục Đăng kiểm Việt Nam: <http://www.vr.org.vn>.

Nếu Quý cơ quan cần thêm thông tin về vấn đề nêu trên, đề nghị vui lòng liên hệ:

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Xin gửi đến các Quý Cơ quan lời chào trân trọng.

**TRƯỞNG PHÒNG TÀU BIỂN**

Nơi nhận:

-Như trên

-QP, VRQC, MT

-Lưu TB

**Nguyễn Vũ Hải**



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**Date:            18 November 2005**

**Ref. No.:        021KT/05TB.E**

*Subject: Provision of immersion suits in accordance with Regulation III/32.3 of SOLAS 74 for Vietnamese cargo ships engaged on international voyages.*

To whom it may concern

At the section 78 (from 12 May to 21 May 2004), the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization adopted the Resolution MSC.152(78) which makes amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) 1974 as amended. These amendments shall be deemed accepted on 01 January 2006 and shall enter into force on 01 July 2006. The Regulation 32.3, Chapter III - SOLAS 74 as amended, for provision of immersion suits has been completely revised as follows:

**"Regulation 32. Personal life-saving appliances**

The existing text of paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:

**.3      *Immersion suits***

- 3.1      *This paragraph applies to all cargo ships. However, with respect to cargo ships constructed before 1 July 2006, paragraphs 3.2 to 3.5 shall be complied with not later than the first safety equipment survey on or after 1 July 2006.***
- 3.2      *An immersion suit complying with the requirements of section 2.3 of the Code\* shall be provided for every person on board the ship. However, for ships other than bulk carriers, as defined in regulation IX/1, these immersion suits need not be required if the ship is constantly engaged on voyages in warm climates where, in the opinion of the Administration, immersion suits are unnecessary.***
- 3.3      *If a ship has any watch or work stations which are located remotely from the place or places where immersion suits are normally stowed, additional immersion suits shall be provided at these locations for the number of persons normally on watch or working at those locations at any time.***

- 3.4 *Immersion suits shall be so placed as to be readily accessible and their position shall be plainly indicated.*
- 3.5 *The immersion suits required by this regulation may be used to comply with the requirements of regulation 7.3.*

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\*Code means the LSA Code

With reference to the above amendments, please be informed of the application of these amendments as follows:

1/ Application:

- .i New ships (which have keel laid on or after 01 July 2006): to be complied at the delivery of the ship.
- .ii Existing ships (which have keel laid before 01 July 2006): to be complied at the first survey of Safety Equipment (annual, periodical or renewal survey) on or after 01 July 2006.

2/ Exemption:

A ship other than a bulk carrier, as defined in regulation 1/Ch IX/SOLAS 1974, as amended, which is constantly engaged on voyages in warm climates of the sector of the globe between latitude 25 degrees North and 25 degrees South, may be exempted from the above requirement, provided that the exemption is subject to official approval of VR Head Office for each specific case.

3/ *Workstation* is any place of the ship where the crew is occupied performing its normal duties except watch-keeping duties. *Remotely located workstations* are those located more than 100 metres, measured horizontally, from the place where the immersion suits are stowed. If the vessel has such *remotely located workstations*, additional immersion suits shall be provided at these locations for the number of persons normally working at those locations (one immersion suit for each person)

4/ Watch station is any place of the ship where the crew performs its normal watch-keeping duties (wheel-house, engine control room, ...). *Remotely located watch stations* are those located more than 50 metres, measured horizontally, from the place where the immersion suits are stowed. If the vessel has such *remotely located workstations*, additional immersion suits shall be provided at these locations for the number of persons normally working at those locations (one immersion suit for each person).

5/ According to Regulation 7.3, Chapter III, SOLAS 74, as amended, an immersion suit shall be provided for every person assigned to crew the rescue boat. (normally 3 immersion suits for each rescue boat). The immersion suits provided as per Regulation 32.3 are also considered to be complied with Regulation 7.3.

6/ A ship shall continue to carry the number of life jackets required by regulation 7.2, Chapter III, SOLAS 1974, as amended, even if its immersion suits are classified as lifejackets.

7/ Inspection and service of the immersion suits:

.i Monthly inspection of the immersion suits shall be carried out by crew members according to Regulation 20.7, Chapter III, SOLAS 1974, as amended and the Circular MSC/Circ.1047 (see the attached).

.ii The immersion suits shall be serviced and tested periodically with interval not exceeded 3 years according to Circular MSC/Circ.1114 (see the attached).

8/ At the first SE survey on or after 01 July 2006, the surveyor shall verify the immersion suits provided on board ship in compliance with the Regulation 32.3 and entry the number of immersion suits on Record of Equipment for the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate (form E).

9/ This Technical Information must be placed on board ships flying Vietnamese flag.

Manager of Sea-going Ship's Class. & Reg. Dept.

**Nguyen Vu Hai**

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**IMO**

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Ref. T3/1.02

MSC/Circ.1047  
28 May 2002

**GUIDELINES FOR MONTHLY SHIPBOARD INSPECTION OF IMMERSION SUITS  
AND ANTI-EXPOSURE SUITS BY SHIPS' CREWS**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-fifth session (15 to 24 May 2002), recognizing that SOLAS regulation III/20.7 requires monthly inspection of life-saving appliances to be carried out by using the checklist required by SOLAS regulation III/36.1 to ensure that their operational readiness is maintained in service, approved Guidelines for monthly shipboard inspection of immersion suits and anti-exposure suits by ships' crews, as set out in the annex.

2 Member Governments are invited to bring the annexed Guidelines to the attention of all parties concerned, in conjunction with the relevant requirements of SOLAS regulations III/20.7 and 36.1.

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**ANNEX****GUIDELINES FOR MONTHLY SHIPBOARD INSPECTION OF IMMERSION SUITS  
AND ANTI-EXPOSURE SUITS BY SHIPS' CREWS**

When carrying out the inspection of immersion suits and anti-exposure suits required by SOLAS regulation III/20.7, the following procedure is recommended.

- 1 Check closures on storage bag as well as general condition of bag for ease of removal of suit. Ensure donning instructions are legible. Confirm that suit is the type and size identified on the bag.
- 2 Lay the suit on a clean, flat surface. Make sure the suit is dry inside and out. Visually check for damage. Rips, tears or punctures should be repaired in accordance with manufacturer's instructions by a suitable repair station\*.
- 3 Check the zipper by sliding it up and down to check for ease of operation. Using lubricant recommended by the manufacturer, lubricate the front and back of the zipper and the slide fastener. If the zipper is not functional, the suit should be removed from service and discarded or returned to the manufacturer or a suitable repair station.
- 4 If fitted, check inflatable head support and/or buoyancy ring for damage and ensure that it is properly attached. Check inflation hose(s) for deterioration. At least quarterly, the head support/buoyancy ring should be inflated and tested for leaks (this test does not apply to integral inflatable lifejackets). Leaks should be repaired in accordance with manufacturers' instructions by a suitable repair station.
- 5 Check retro reflective tape for condition and adhesion. Replace if necessary.
- 6 If fitted, check whistle and expiration date of light and battery.
- 7 Replace suits in the bag with zippers fully opened.
- 8 The opportunity should be taken at such monthly inspections for the crew to practise donning the immersion suits or anti-exposure suits.

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\* A "suitable repair station" is one authorized by the suit manufacturer and/or acceptable to the Administration.



Ref. T4/3.01

MSC/Circ.1114  
25 May 2004

**GUIDELINES FOR PERIODIC TESTING OF IMMERSION SUIT AND  
ANTI-EXPOSURE SUIT SEAMS AND CLOSURES**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-eighth session (12 to 21 May 2004), recognizing that shipboard inspections of immersion suits and anti-exposure suits carried out in accordance with SOLAS regulation III/20.7 and MSC/Circ.1047 may not be adequate to detect deterioration of seams and closures of the suits due to adhesive ageing, and having considered the recommendation made by the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment at its forty-sixth session, approved the Guidelines for periodic testing of immersion suit and anti-exposure suit seams and closures, as set out in the annex.

2 Member Governments are invited to bring the annexed Guidelines to the attention of all parties concerned.

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**ANNEX****GUIDELINES FOR PERIODIC TESTING OF IMMERSION SUIT AND ANTI-EXPOSURE SUIT SEAMS AND CLOSURES**

- 1 Research performed by several Member Governments has demonstrated that the seams and closures of immersion suits and anti-exposure suits experience deterioration over time. The rate and severity of deterioration may vary widely, depending upon the specific components and procedures employed in the manufacture of the suit and the conditions under which the suit is stored. However, even under ideal conditions, the materials and adhesives used have a finite service life and will inevitably experience a reduction in strength and/or loss of watertightness with age.
- 2 The Guidelines for monthly shipboard inspection of immersion suits and anti-exposure suits (MSC/Circ.1047) are very helpful in identifying obvious problems with a suit, but do not adequately address deterioration of seams and closures (zippers, etc.) which may not be readily apparent by visual inspection. Such deterioration can be detected by pressurization of the suit with air, and testing of the seams and closures for leaks with a soapy water solution.
- 3 To ensure the maintenance of adequate strength and watertightness of seams and closures of immersion suits and anti-exposure suits with age, it is recommended that each suit be subjected to an air pressure test such as the following, at intervals not exceeding three years, or more frequently for suits over ten years of age:
  - .1 A suitable head piece, fitted with a means to inject air into the suit, should be inserted into the face orifice of the suit and secured so as to minimize leakage around the face seal. A low-pressure monitoring device, either integral to the fitting for air injection or as a separate device, should also be inserted. If the suit is fitted with detachable gloves and/or boots, the wrists and/or cuffs should be sealed by inserting a short length of suitable diameter plastic pipe and securing the gloves and/or boots with suitable wire ties or hose clamps. The zipper should be fully zipped, and any face flap closed. The suit should then be inflated to a pressure of 0.7 to 1.4 kPa (0.1 to 0.2 psi). If an auxiliary inflatable means of buoyancy is provided, it should be inflated through the oral valve to a pressure of 0.7 kPa (0.1 psi) or until firm to the touch.
  - .2 Each seam and closure of the suit - and each seam, oral tube and attachment points and joint or valve of any auxiliary inflatable means of buoyancy - should then be covered with a soapy water solution containing enough soap to produce bubbles (if leakage is noted at a foot valve to the extent that air pressure cannot be maintained, the valves should be sealed for the test).
  - .3 If leaks are revealed by the propagation of bubbles at seams or closures, the leaking areas should be marked and, after cleaning the suit thoroughly with fresh water and drying it, repaired in accordance with the suit manufacturer's recommendations.

4 It is recommended that the air pressure test be performed at a suitable shore-based facility equipped to make any necessary repairs in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. In view of the wide variety of materials and adhesives used in immersion suits and anti-exposure suits, it is strongly recommended that any repairs to a suit be carried out by a facility which has access to the original manufacturer's recommended servicing instructions, parts and adhesives, and suitably trained personnel. The air pressure test may be carried out on board ship if suitable equipment is available.

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