

GC22 Water spray system

(Apr 2018
Withdrawn)
(June 2019),
(Rev.1
Apr 2020)

Interpretation of sections 11.3.1, & 11.3.3 & 11.3.4 of the INTERNATIONAL CODE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF SHIPS CARRYING LIQUEFIED GASES IN BULK (Resolution MSC.370(93))

Regulation

IGC Code 2016 edition, Chapter 11 reads as follows:

11.3.1 On ships carrying flammable and/or toxic products, a water-spray system, for cooling, fire prevention and crew protection shall be installed to cover:

...

.7 exposed lifeboats, liferafts and muster stations facing the cargo area, regardless of distance to cargo area; and

...

11.3.3 The capacity of the water-spray pumps shall be capable of simultaneous protection of the greater of the following:

.1 any two complete athwartship tank groupings, including any gas process units within these areas; or

...

11.3.4 The boundaries of superstructures and deckhouses normally manned, and lifeboats, liferafts and muster areas facing the cargo area, shall also be capable of being served by one of the fire pumps or the emergency fire pump, if a fire in one compartment could disable both fire pumps.

Interpretation

a) Survival crafts protection

With reference to sub-paragraph .7 of IGC Code 11.3.1, the survival crafts on board including remote survival crafts (ref. SOLAS III/Reg. 31.1.4) facing the cargo area shall be protected by a water-spray system taking into consideration cargo area extension for fire-fighting purposes as stated in 11.1.4.

Remote liferafts located in areas covered by water-spray protection as required in sub-paragraph .6 may be considered as adequately protected.

Note:

1. April 2018 version of this Unified Interpretation was withdrawn prior to coming into force on 1 July 2019.
2. June 2019 version of this Unified Interpretation is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies on ships constructed on or after 1 July 2019.
3. Rev.1 of this Unified Interpretation is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies on ships contracted for construction on or after 1 January 2021.

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(Cont)

b) Tank groups in cargo area

Expression “two complete athwartship tank groupings” in sub-paragraph .1 of IGC Code 11.3.3 means any two groups of tanks where one group is defined as tanks located in transverse direction from ship side to ship side. Where there is only one cargo tank occupying a hold space from ship side to ship side, it will be considered as a “grouping” for the purpose of this interpretation.

“Any two complete athwartship tank groupings” represents an area equal to the combined area of the two largest tank groupings including any gas process units within these areas

c) Fire pumps used as spray pumps (IGC Code, Paragraph 11.3.4):

Paragraph 11.3.4 highlights requirements for availability of fire pumps required by SOLAS regulation II-2/10.2.2 for water supply to the spray system for personnel and survival craft and muster station protection. The supply of fire water shall be redundant.

In cases where the emergency fire pump is used to meet this requirement, its capacity, in addition to being capable of maintaining two jets of water as required by paragraph 12.2.2.1.1 of the FSS Code, shall be increased taking into account the spray application rates stated in paragraph 11.3.2.1, but limiting coverage to boundaries of normally manned superstructures and deckhouses, survival crafts and their muster areas.

For the purpose of this interpretation:

- .1 the expression "one of the fire pumps or emergency fire pump" is related to fire pumps required by SOLAS regulation II-2/10.2.2 installed outside the space where spray pump(s) are located; and
- .2 the expression "fire in one compartment" means a compartment provided with A-class boundaries in which is located the fire pump(s), or the source of power of the fire pump(s), serving the water-spray system in accordance with paragraph 11.3.3.

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