

GC33 Cargo Sampling

(Feb 2021)

Interpretation of paragraph 5.6.5 and section 18.9 of the IMO International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (as amended by Resolutions MSC.370(93), MSC.411(97) and MSC.441(99))

The paragraph 5.6.5 and section 18.9 read as follows:

5.6.5 Cargo sampling connections

5.6.5.1 Connections to cargo piping systems for taking cargo liquid samples shall be clearly marked and shall be designed to minimize the release of cargo vapours. For vessels permitted to carry toxic products, the sampling system shall be of a closed loop design to ensure that cargo liquid and vapour are not vented to atmosphere.

[...]

18.9 Cargo sampling

18.9.1 Any cargo sampling shall be conducted under the supervision of an officer who shall ensure that protective clothing appropriate to the hazards of the cargo is used by everyone involved in the operation.

[...]

18.9.5 After sampling operations are completed, the officer shall ensure that any sample valves used are closed properly and the connections used are correctly blanked.

Interpretation

These requirements are only applicable if such a sampling system is fitted on board. Connections used for control of atmosphere in cargo tanks during inerting or gassing up are not considered as cargo sampling connections.

Note:

1. This Unified Interpretation is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies on ships contracted for construction on or after 1 July 2021.
2. The “contracted for construction” date means the date on which the contract to build the vessel is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. For further details regarding the date of “contract for construction”, refer to IACS Procedural Requirement (PR) No. 29.

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