

SC 200

Container storage arrangement for equivalent fixed gas fire extinguishing systems (FSS Code, Ch. 5, 2.5 4)

(June 2005)
(Corr.1
May 2022)

Interpretation of paragraph 2.4 of Chapter 5 of the IMO International Code for Fire Safety Systems as amended by resolution MSC.339(91)

Regulation Paragraph 2.4 of Chapter 5 of the FSS Code reads as follows:

Fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems equivalent to those specified in paragraphs 2.2 to 2.34 shall be approved by the Administration based on the guidelines developed by the Organisation.

Interpretation:

Agent containers stored in a protected space shall be distributed throughout the space with bottles or groups of bottles located in at least six separate locations. Duplicate power release lines shall be arranged to release all bottles simultaneously. The release lines shall be so arranged that in the event of damage to any power release line, five sixth of the fire extinguishing gas can still be discharged. The bottle valves are considered to be part of the release lines and a single failure shall include also failure of the bottle valve.

For systems that need less than six cylinders (using the smallest bottles available), the total amount of extinguishing gas on the bottles shall be such that in the event of a single failure to one of the release lines (including bottle valve), five sixth of the fire extinguishing gas can still be discharged. This may be achieved by for instance using more extinguishing gas than required so that if one bottle is not discharging due to a single fault, the remaining bottles will discharge the minimum five sixth of the required amount of gas. This can be achieved with minimum two bottles. However, NOAEL values calculated at the highest expected engine room temperature are not to be exceeded when discharging the total amount of extinguishing gas simultaneously.

Systems that can not comply with the above, for instance systems using only one bottle located inside the protected space, cannot be accepted. Such systems shall be designed with the bottle(s) located outside the protected space, in a dedicated room in compliance with SOLAS Reg.II-2/10.4.3.

Note:

1. This UI is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Members and Associates on ships the keels of which are laid from 1 January 2006.

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