ClassNK PSC Bulletin

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Title:

Integrity of emergency fire pump suction and discharge piping that penetrates the machinery space

Typical finding (outline of comment) by PSC:

The emergency fire pump suction and discharge piping that penetrates the machinery space is not insulated to "A-60" class standards.

[Applicable vessels : <u>Vessels with keel-laid on or after 1 September 1984 and before 1 July 2002</u> having emergency fire pump suction and discharge piping that penetrates the machinery space]

Port State	Country: C	hina	Port: All ports in China
Action taken b	y PSC:	Detention / Rectify before	Departure / Others (
Description:			

It has been reported that Port State Control in China points out that emergency fire pump suction and discharge piping that penetrates the machinery space is not insulated to "A-60" class standards in the applicable vessels indicated above.

Vessels keel-laid on or after 1 September 1984 and before 1 July 2002 are subject to the following requirement of SOLAS II-2/4.6.3 prescribed in 81 SOLAS.

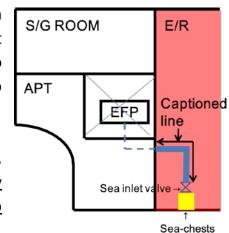
F•••Exceptionally, the Administration may permit short lengths of the emergency fire pump suction and discharge piping to penetrate the machinery space if it is impracticable to route it externally, provided that the integrity of the fire main is maintained by the enclosure of the piping in a substantial steel casing.

Our classification society has approved the use of pipes with a thickness of 11 mm or more or that meets schedule 160 and upwards for the above ships, as applicable, taking into consideration the equivalency of integrity, instead of substantial steel casing, since there are no clear requirements concerning the thickness and arrangement of such casing.

However, even though the effectiveness in terms of the equivalence of the integrity of such pipes

has been explained repeatedly whenever such a finding has been pointed out by PSC officers in China, such explanations have not been accepted. Instead, it is pointed out that such piping needs to be insulated to "A-60" class standards as a measure equivalent to a substantial steel casing based on their own judgement.

In this regard, in order to avoid unnecessary difficulties with PSC, vessels keel-laid on or after 1 September 1984 and before 1 July 2002 trading in China are advised to insulate emergency fire pump suction and discharge piping that penetrates the machinery space to "A-60" class standards.



Explanatory Diagram