Testing and Approval of Penetrations in “A” Class Divisions

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Approval and Type Approval of Materials and Equipment for Marine Use

Reason for Amendment

With respect to fire tests for “A” class division penetrations, the FTP Code specifies detailed requirements for conventional penetrations constructed with steel sleeves. In cases where other types of penetrations are used, the FTP Code specifies that additional tests are to be carried out, taking into account the characteristics of the penetrations, however does not provide specific requirements of test procedures.

IACS, in relation to the above-mentioned requirements, developed a unified interpretation, IACS UI FTP6, which specifies additional requirements for “A” class division penetrations constructed with special materials such as thin steel sleeves, etc. This interpretation has already been incorporated into the NK Rules.

IACS UI FTP6 specifies that the tightness of penetrations is to be assessed by inserting a pointed implement such as a pen into the penetration. However, as a result of consideration at the 1st Session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment (SSE1) held in March 2014, it was agreed that a 6 mm gap gauge, as described in the FTP Code, is to be used instead of a pointed implement, taking into account the opinion that it is desirable to use an instrument that is commonly used during a fire test. This interpretation was approved at the 94th Session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC94) held in November 2014 and circulated as MSC.1/Circ.1488.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with MSC.1/Circ.1488.

Outline of Amendment

Specified that “A” class division penetrations constructed with special materials such as thin steel sleeves are to be tested in accordance with MSC.1/Circ.1488.