Guidelines for Fixed Water-based Fire-fighting Systems Used for Ro-Ro Spaces, etc.

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part R

Reason for Amendment

Section 2.4 in Chapter 7 of the International Code for Fire Safety Systems (FSS Code) requires that fixed water-based fire-fighting systems for ro-ro spaces, vehicle spaces and special category spaces be approved by the Administration, and also specifies that reference is to be given to MSC.1/Circ.1430 as the specific guideline for fixed water-based fire-fighting systems. These requirements have already been incorporated into the ClassNK Rules.

With regard to the above, IACS requested that the IMO clarify requirements related to the operation locations and functions of the fire pumps and section control valves described in the above-mentioned guideline. As a result, the 5th session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Ship System and Equipment (SSE 5) held in March 2018 agreed that means to start and stop pumps and operate (i.e. open and close) section control valves are to be provided in rooms where section control valves are operated and in a continuously manned control station (e.g. the bridge). In addition, another proposal to request review of requirements related to the arrangement of sprinkler heads and nozzles submitted by the Community of European Shipyards' Associations (CESA) was agreed upon. Finally, SSE 5 agreed that this proposal would be included as a draft amendment to MSC.1/Circ.1430.

The draft amendment mentioned above was submitted to the 100th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC100) held in December 2018 and approved as MSC.1/Circ.1430/Rev.1

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in order to refer to the approved MSC circular.

Outline of Amendment

Updated relevant requirements so that they reference MSC.1/Circ.1430/Rev.1 as the specific guideline for fixed water-based fire-fighting systems.

Amended Requirements

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships
Part R: R20.5.1, R27.2.3