Subject:	
Special requirements for Swiss flag ships	



No.: 411

Date: 13 July 2001

To: Shipowners

We have received the information of inspection and maintenance for portable fire extinguishers from the Swiss Maritime Navigation Office, please refer to the attached document.

You are kindly advised that inspections and maintenance for portable fire extinguishers are to be carried out in accordance with their instructions.

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Attached: Notice from Swiss Maritime Navigation Office



Schweizerisches Seeschifffahrtsamt Office suisse de la navigation maritime Ufficio svizzero della navigazione maritima Swiss Maritime Navigation Office

Ref.: 301.07 / 341.4-02 - HAN/LMI

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SOLAS 1974 as amended Chapter II-2 Regulation 6.5 and IMO Resolution A.602 (15). Inspection and testing of portable fire extinguishers.

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

With reference to the above-mentioned regulation, we would like to advise the requirements of the Swiss Administration.

1. Portable Fire Extinguishing Equipment

- a) Annual inspection and weighting, periodical discharging and refilling, as well as intermediate check and maintenance as might be required by the individual makers of water, foam, CO₂ and dry powder fire extinguishers may be carried out by a certified Officer in charge of a navigational watch on board.
- b) Pressure testing by a recognized specialist testing Company prescribed as follows:
 - 1. Non pressurized extinguishers: every 10 years.
 - 2. Pressurized extinguishers, (excluding CO₃): every 5 years.
 - 3. CO, extinguishers 10 and 20 years after manufacturing date and thereafter every every 5 years.
 - 4. If any damage, corrosion or losses of content noticed.
 - 5. For CO, extinguishers or gas propellant cartridges, if loss of gas by weight exceeds 10% of the original charge as stamped on the bottle or cartridge or excessive corrosion found externally.
- c) Records of the date of annual checks and pressure testing must be marked on the extinguisher and in the Management System on board as prescribed by the Company.

2. Fixed Fire Extinguishing Equipment

Inspection and testing of fixed fire extinguishing equipment, including fixed CO₂ and foam installations is subject to specific requirements of the individual Classification Societies.

Yours sincerely,

Swiss Maritime Navigation Office

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Urs Hänggi

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