

Subject

Special requirements for life-saving appliances and fire fighting arrangement on board Manx flagged vessels

ClassNK

Technical Information

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To whom it may concern

It has already been informed by ClassNK Technical Information No. TEC-0485 of 25 October 2002 regarding the special requirements for life-saving appliances on board Manx flagged vessels. In this connection, the Manx Government has notified newly ClassNK of instructions in relation to both life-saving appliances and fire fighting arrangement. Both the essential points of the requirements are shown below.

This ClassNK Technical Information supersedes the previous ClassNK Technical Information No. TEC-0485 dated 25 October 2002.

1. Maintenance of Falls used in Launching

- (1) Falls used in launching any survival craft shall be turned end for end at intervals not exceeding 30 months and shall be renewed whenever necessary due to deterioration or at the end of 5 years whichever shall occur first, provided that in systems which have a continuous fall arrangement the fall need not be turned end for end but shall whenever practicable be adjusted at intervals not exceeding 24 months in such a manner that any part of the fall in contact with a sheave when the survival craft is in the stowed position is no longer in contact after adjustment and the falls shall be renewed whenever necessary due to deterioration or at the end of 4 years whichever shall occur first.
- (2) Notwithstanding the above paragraph 1. (1), falls which are made from stainless steel of suitable quality need not be renewed within the lifetime recommended by the manufacturer or supplier provided that at each thorough examination in accordance with Regulation 20. 11. 1 of Chapter III of 1996 Amendments to 1974 SOLAS there are no signs of deterioration, mechanical damage, or other defect. Such falls should wherever practicable be adjusted at intervals not exceeding 30 months in such a manner that any part of the fall in contact with a sheave when the survival craft is in the stowed position is no longer in contact after adjustment.

2. Recovery strop arrangement in adverse sea conditions

Every lifeboat which is also a rescue boat and, in ships which are not provided with a rescue boat, one of the lifeboat, shall be provided with arrangement for the safe recovery of the lifeboat or rescue boat in adverse sea conditions in accordance with Regulation 17. 5 of Chapter III of 1996 Amendments to 1974 SOLAS. This requirement should be applied for ships constructed on or after 1 July 1986.

(To be continued)

NOTES:

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3. Lifejackets

- (1) Additional lifejackets for the use of the persons on watch and for use at remote survival stations should be provided as follows:
 - (i) At least 4 where the number of persons on board is 16 or less.
 - (ii) At least 25 % of the number of persons where the number of persons on board exceeds 16.
The number of additional lifejackets need not exceed the number of persons on board.
- (2) Inflatable lifejackets for the number of persons assigned for rescue boat should be provided.
- (3) Where a free-fall lifeboat is installed on board the ship, inflatable lifejackets which are complying with the LSA Code should be provided for the number of persons on board. Additional lifejackets for the use of the persons on watch may be of inherently buoyant lifejackets. If the inflatable lifejackets are additional to the ship's provision of inherently buoyant lifejackets, it is recommended that the inflatable lifejackets are stowed in a suitable container in the vicinity of the embarkation platform for the free-fall lifeboat.

4. Immersion suits and anti-exposure suits

- (1) Immersion suits and anti-exposure suits on board should be of insulated type, if the ship makes the following voyages:
 - (i) North of latitude 65 degrees North in the Atlantic Ocean;
 - (ii) North of latitude 55 degrees North in the Pacific Ocean;
 - (iii) South of latitude 50 degrees South; or
 - (iv) East of longitude 10 degrees East in the Kattegat and Baltic Sea between 1 December and 30 April, inclusive.
- (2) Immersion suits required by Regulation 32.3 of Chapter III of 1996 Amendments to 1974 SOLAS may not be equipped, if the ship is constantly engaged on voyages between the parallels of 20 degrees North and South.

5. Emergency escape breathing device (EEBD)

- (1) EEBDs for use in the accommodation spaces are to be stored in the same compartment as the fire-fighter's outfits.
- (2) Two spares are to be provided. The spares are to be marked "spare" and stowed in accommodation space such as fire station. (applied to ships constructed on and after 1 July 2002)

6. Fire extinguishers

- (1) Portable fire extinguishers. (applied to ships constructed on and after 1 July 2004)
No more than 50 % of the total outfit are to be dry powder type. In accommodation spaces, there should be some water or foam type extinguishers. In machinery spaces, there should be some foam type extinguishers.
- (2) Semi-portable extinguishers.
Semi-portable extinguishers in machinery spaces are to be either foam or CO₂ type. (applied to ships constructed on and after 1 July 2004)
Ships constructed before 1 July 2004 provided with dry powder semi-portable extinguishers are to change them when the extinguisher is renewed.

(To be continued)

7. Fire-fighter's outfits (applied to ships constructed on and after 1 July 2004)

For ships other than tankers, the followings are to be provided.

500 G/T and over, but less than 2,500 G/T	2 sets
2,500 G/T and over, but less than 4,000 G/T	3 sets
4,000 G/T and over	4 sets

8. Medical oxygen cylinders

When medical oxygen cylinders are provided in accordance with the IMDG/MFAG guide, followings are to be complied with.

- (1) 40L oxygen cylinders are not allowed to be located in the accommodation spaces.
- (2) Storage of a 40L oxygen cylinder outside the accommodation is not recommended. It is recommended that ships are to carry 4 cylinders of approximately 10L each. One is to be in hospital ready for use, and three cylinders are to be located in a suitable dry store outside accommodation.

Inspection, test and maintenance:

- (i) The system is to be inspected annually on board by a competent person in compliance with manufacturer's instructions.
 - (ii) The contents of the cylinders are to be tested at intervals not exceeding 3 years and changed if required.
- (3) Regardless of the above item 8.(2), 40L cylinder is wished to be installed on board ship, Owners and Managers should forward their plan to the Marine Administration for their approval. The plan should include drawings and maintenance plan.

Where the 40L cylinder is used, the cylinder is to be stored outside the accommodation block, as close to the hospital as is possible. The system is to have a vent to atmosphere allowing the oxygen to be vented outside the accommodation in case of a valve leak.

Inspection, test and maintenance:

- (i) The system is to be inspected annually on board by a competent person in compliance with manufacturer's instructions.
- (ii) The piping system is to be examined and pressure tested at intervals not exceeding 3 years by the manufacturer or his appointed agents.
- (iii) The contents of the cylinders are to be tested at intervals not exceeding 3 years and changed if required.

For any questions about the above, please contact:

NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI (ClassNK)

Material and Equipment Department, Administration Center, Head Office

Address: 4-7 Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8567, Japan

Tel.: +81-3-5226-2020

Fax: +81-3-5226-2057

E-mail: eqd@classnk.or.jp