

# MSC Guidelines for Review of Pool Machinery Spaces

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## References

- ❑ SOLAS 2004 Cite: II-2/9.2.2.3.2(13)
- ❑ SOLAS 2001 Cite: II-2/26.2.2(13)

## Contact Information

If you have any questions or comments concerning this document, please contact the Marine Safety Center by e-mail or phone. Please refer to Procedure Number: **SOLAS-24**.

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## Reference Text

*“Store-rooms, workshops, pantries, etc.*

Main pantries not annexed to galleys.

Main laundry.

Large drying rooms (having a deck area of more than 4 m<sup>2</sup>).

Miscellaneous stores.

Mail and baggage rooms.

Garbage rooms.

Workshops (not part of machinery spaces, galleys, etc.).

Lockers and store-rooms having areas greater than 4 m<sup>2</sup>, other than those spaces that have provisions for the storage of flammable liquids.”

## Guidance

As far as practicable, spaces where oxidizing chemicals are used or stowed shall be in accordance with II-2/9.2.2.3.2 (13). These spaces should also be protected with automatic fire suppression and detection as appropriate.

## Background

Many of the pool treatment chemicals observed on recent new buildings are strong oxidizers. While these chemicals are not flammable, they can exacerbate fire growth by generating additional oxygen when exposed to a fire. Additionally, these chemicals may also produce toxic fumes or corrosive by-products when heated or released in bulk form. The increased hazards that these chemicals pose, requires a greater level of fire protection than a category (10) space “tanks, voids, and auxiliary machinery spaces having little or no fire risk” provides.

## Disclaimer

This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule. It is not intended to nor does it impose legally-binding requirements on any party. It represents the Coast Guard’s current thinking on this topic and may assist industry, mariners, the general public, and the Coast Guard, as well as other federal and state regulators, in applying statutory and regulatory requirements. You can use an alternative approach for complying with these requirements if the approach satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. If you want to discuss an alternative, you may contact The Marine Safety Center, who is responsible for implementing this guidance.