

MSC Guidelines for Review of CO2 bottle storage

Plan Review Guidance #: SOLAS-03

Effective Date	11/15/02
Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ SOLAS 2001 Cite: II-2/9.7.5.1.4❑ SOLAS 1974 Cite: II-2/32.1.9.4
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Contact Information	<p>If you have any questions or comments concerning this document, please contact the Marine Safety Center by e-mail or phone. Please refer to the Plan Review Guidance #: SOLAS-03.</p> <p>E-Mail: Customerservicemsc@uscg.msc.mil Phone: (202) 366-6480</p>
Regulation Text	<p>“Remote control arrangements for shutting off the exhaust fans and supply fans, for operating the fire dampers mentioned in paragraph 7.5.1.2 and for operating the fire-extinguishing system, which shall be placed in a position close to the entrance to the galley. Where a multi-branch system is installed, a remote means located with the above controls shall be provided to close all branches exhausting through the same main duct before an extinguishing medium is released into the system.”</p>
Guidance	<p>Single CO2 bottles used in galley duct extinguishing and beverage distribution systems should not be stowed in accommodation areas, and should be arranged so that rapid loss of the CO2 charge will not pose a threat to persons nearby. As far as practicable, CO2 bottle stowage shall be in accordance with II-2/10.4.3.</p>
Background	<p>While remote controls for securing ventilation and operating the fire-extinguishing system are typically in accordance with the above regulation, there are no provisions that specifically address the storage of CO2 bottles used in galley exhaust duct extinguishing systems. These bottles typically contain smaller volumes of CO2 than those used for flooding entire spaces. Accordingly, the stowage requirements in II-2/10.4.3 are typically applied only to banks of CO2 bottles that are stored in the same space. Recently, many vessels have been found to have galley exhaust duct CO2 bottles stowed within accommodation spaces, or in lockers without ventilation. These bottles pose a significant hazard to personnel in the immediate vicinity of the bottle.</p>