

MSC Guidelines for Review of Retro-Active Fire Safety Amendments

Procedure Number: H2-22

Revision Date: 05/05/00

References

- a. SOLAS Consolidated Edition, 1992, Consolidated Text of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, and its Protocol of 1978: articles, annex and certificates.
- b. International Maritime Organization, Maritime Safety Committee Resolution 24(60), "Adoption of Amendments to Chapter II-2 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974".
- c. Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 1-93, "Control Verification Examinations (CVE's) of Foreign Passenger Vessels".
- d. Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular No. 4-95 (NVIC 4-95), "Fire Safety Standards for Foreign Passenger Vessels Constructed before 1 October 1994".

Disclaimer

These guidelines were developed by the Marine Safety Center staff as an aid in the preparation and review of vessel plans and submissions. They were developed to supplement existing guidance. They are not intended to substitute or replace laws, regulations, or other official Coast Guard policy guidance. The responsibility to demonstrate compliance with all applicable laws and regulations still rests with the plan submitter. The Coast Guard and the U. S. Department of Transportation expressly disclaim liability resulting from the use of this document.

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 the Procedure Number: H2-22.

E-mail: customerservicemsc@uscg.mil

Phone: 202-366-6480.

General Administrative Review Guidance

Check that the following items are included in the submittal package:

- ❑ Vessel information listed in Section 5.a of reference (c).
- ❑ Three copies of Flag State approved Fire Control Plans and SFP plans indicating means of escape (four copies if both the owner and flag representative desire copies). The plans must be translated in English (See Reg II-2/20).
- ❑ Indicate if vessel plans are being submitted under an Outline of Cooperation (OOC).

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- Documentation for any exemptions related to compliance with Reg. II-2/41-1 and 41-2 that were granted.

Indicate if and when any major conversions occurred. (See reference (d), encl. 1/3.e).

- Clearly identify those modifications being made to comply with Reg. II-2/41-1 versus modifications that are in addition to RFSA requirements. (See reference (d), encl. 1/3.d.5 and 6).
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Fire Control Plans

Ensure the Fire Control Plans are in accordance with Resolution A.756(18) (See Reg. II-2/20).

Ensure that the Fire Control Plans include a profile of the vessel.

Ensure the Fire Control Plan symbols are in accordance with Resolution A654(16). (See Reg. II-2/20).

Sprinkler Systems

Indicate if the vessel has an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Reg. II-2/36 or 41-2.5.

Indicate the construction standard. (e.g. SOLAS 74, SOLAS 60 Part H, SOLAS 60 Method II, SOLAS 48).

- Determine the compliance date for the installation of automatic sprinklers. (See Reg. II-2/41-1.3.4 or 41-1.2.2. If sprinklers are not required in 1997, vessel must be fitted with automatic sprinklers in all spaces required by Reg. II-2/41-2.5 by the appropriate date between 2005 and 2009).
 - If vessel complies with SOLAS 60 Part H, this must be clearly demonstrated. (Vessels complying with Part H of Chapter II of amendments to SOLAS 60, which are granted an exemption as per Reg. II-2/41-1.4, must provide a Flag state exemption certificate or equivalent. (See reference (d), encl. 1/3.d.4).
 - If sprinklers are required in 1997, ensure they are indicated in accommodation and service spaces, stairways and corridors.
 - Service spaces are all spaces listed in the definition of Reg. II-2/3.12, including Refrigerated Storerooms.
 - For SOLAS 60 Method II vessels, check for sprinklers in all spaces required by Reg. II-2/41-2.
 - Review plans for any indication of manually operated valve.
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- Check that:
 - there are not more than 200 heads per zone,
 - there are no more than 2 decks per zone, and
 - each zone is within one MVZ.
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Fire Detection and Alarm Systems

Ensure fire detection and alarm system are properly indicated on plans.

- Ensure that all detectors are smoke detectors; heat detectors are only permitted in Galleys, Engine Rooms and Incinerator Rooms. (See Reg. II-2/41-2.2).
 - Ensure detectors are located in all accommodation and service spaces, stairways and corridors. (See Reg. II-2/41-2.2).
 - Ensure detectors are indicated above combustibles ceilings in stairs and corridors. This situation is only applicable to pre-SOLAS 74 vessels. (See Reg. II-2/41-2.3).
 - If the detection system is not "addressable", then no section can serve:
 - (1) more than one deck;
 - (2) more than 50 spaces in each section;
 - (3) both sides of the vessel or;
 - (4) more than one MVZ. (See Reg. II-2/13)
 - Any section of detectors shall not serve both category A machinery spaces and other non-machinery spaces. (See Reg. II-2/13.1.10)
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General Review Guidance

Determine the primary passenger and crew escape stairways. (See reference (d))

Locate new A-Class boundaries of stairways.

Check for the direct access of unauthorized spaces into stairways.

The following spaces may have direct access (See Reg. II-2/41-2.4):

- Existing Type 10 Machinery spaces (Reg. II-2/26.2.)
 - Existing back offices for info counters with smoke detectors and "furniture of restricted fire risk" (Reg. II-2/3.23).
 - Public spaces (theaters, dining rooms, lounges, NOT shops, NOT beauty parlors).
 - Corridors.
 - Public toilets.
 - Special Category spaces (Reg. II-2/3.18).
 - Open deck spaces.
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The following constitutes removal of direct access:

- ❑ Complete separation from the stairway by A-Class boundaries and blanking out doors and rerouting of access to space.
- ❑ Where above creates an intractable design problem, a lobby may be installed as a last resort.
- ❑ Lobbies for galleys and main laundries shall be at least 9 square meters with a fire hose station inside.
- ❑ No lobby shall create a dead-end corridor.
- ❑ Any other lobby must be approximately 6 square meters.
- ❑ Cabins may not have lobbies opening into stairways.
- ❑ Typical acceptable locations for other lobbies are pantries and small service areas directly adjacent to large public spaces.

Check spaces permitted by Reg II-2/41-2.4.4.2 (Spaces existing within the stairway that are not cabins).

- ❑ Determine previous stairway boundaries.
- ❑ These spaces are acceptable if Flag has clearly stated they were originally within the stairway. Otherwise, any space in doubt must be considered to be originally outside the stair.
- ❑ Other stairways required by Reg. II-2/28.1.5.

Ensure doors on galley boundaries, stairway enclosures and MVZ bulkheads are self-closing or normally closed. (See Reg. II-2/41-2.4.1). All doors, including normally closed doors, must have an indicator as required by Reg. II-2/41-2.4.2.

Ensure fire dampers, fixed fire extinguishing systems and fan shut offs are indicated in the galley space. (See Reg. II-2/41-2.4.3).