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MSC.1/Circ.1395  
15 June 2011

**LISTS OF SOLID BULK CARGOES FOR WHICH A FIXED  
GAS FIRE-EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM MAY BE EXEMPTED OR FOR WHICH  
A FIXED GAS FIRE-EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM IS INEFFECTIVE**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-fourth session (5 to 9 December 1994), agreed that there was a need to provide Administrations with guidelines regarding the provisions of SOLAS regulation II-2/10 concerning exemptions from the requirements for fire-extinguishing systems.

2 Consequently, the Committee approved MSC/Circ.671 whereby it agreed to:

- .1 a list of solid bulk cargoes, for which a fixed gas fire-extinguishing system may be exempted (table 1) and recommended Member Governments to take into account the information contained in table 1 when granting exemptions under the provisions of SOLAS regulation II-2/10.7.1.4; and
- .2 a list of solid bulk cargoes for which a fixed gas fire-extinguishing system is ineffective (table 2), and recommended that cargo spaces in a ship engaged in the carriage of cargoes listed in table 2 be provided with a fire-extinguishing system which provides equivalent protection. The Committee also agreed that Administrations should take account of the provisions of SOLAS regulation II-2/19.3.1 when determining suitable requirements for an equivalent fire-extinguishing system.

3 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-ninth session (1 to 10 December 2004), reviewed the above-mentioned tables and approved MSC/Circ.1146. The Committee decided that the annexed tables should be periodically reviewed and invited Member Governments to provide the Organization, when granting exemptions to ships for the carriage of cargoes not included in table 1, with data on the non-combustibility or fire risk properties of such cargoes. Member Governments were also requested to provide the Organization, when equivalent fire-extinguishing systems are required for the agreed carriage of cargoes not included in table 2, with data on the inefficiency of fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems for such cargoes.

4 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-ninth session (11 to 20 May 2011), noting the mandatory status of the IMSBC Code, reviewed the aforementioned lists of solid bulk cargoes to align certain names in the lists with those in the recent version of the IMDG Code, and approved them, as set out in tables 1 and 2 of the annex.

5 The purpose of this circular is to provide guidance to Administrations. It should not, however, be considered as precluding Administrations from their right to grant exemptions for cargoes not included in table 1 or to impose any conditions when granting such exemptions under the provisions of SOLAS regulation II-2/10.7.1.4.

6 This circular supersedes MSC/Circ.1146.

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**ANNEX**

**TABLE 1**

**LIST OF SOLID BULK CARGOES FOR WHICH A FIXED GAS FIRE-EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM MAY BE EXEMPTED**

- 1 Cargoes including, but not limited to, those listed in regulation II-2/10:
  - Ore
  - Coal (COAL and BROWN COAL BRIQUETTES)
  - Grain
  - Unseasoned timber
  
- 2 Cargoes listed in the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code, which are not combustible or constitute a low fire risk, as follows:
  - .1 all cargoes not categorized into Group B in the IMSBC Code; and
  - .2 the following cargoes categorized into Group B in the IMSBC Code:
    - ALUMINIUM SMELTING BY-PRODUCTS, UN 3170  
(Both the names ALUMINIUM SMELTING BY-PRODUCTS or ALUMINIUM REMELTING BY-PRODUCTS are in use as proper shipping name)
    - ALUMINIUM FERROSILICON POWDER, UN 1395
    - ALUMINIUM SILICON POWDER, UNCOATED, UN 1398
    - CALCINED PYRITES (Pyritic ash)
    - DIRECT REDUCED IRON (A) Briquettes, hot moulded
    - FERROPHOSPHORUS (including briquettes)
    - FERROSILICON, with more than 30% but less than 90% silicon, UN 1408
    - FERROSILICON, with 25% to 30% silicon, or 90% or more silicon
    - FLUORSPAR (calcium fluoride)
    - LIME (UNSLAKED)
    - LOGS
    - MAGNESIA (UNSLAKED)
    - PEAT MOSS
    - PETROLEUM COKE\*
    - PITCH PRILL
    - PULP WOOD
    - RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, LOW SPECIFIC ACTIVITY MATERIAL (LSA-1), UN 2912 (non fissile or fissile – excepted)
    - RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, SURFACE CONTAMINATED OBJECT(S) (SCO-I or SCO-II), UN 2913 (non fissile or fissile – excepted)
    - ROUNDWOOD
    - SAW LOGS
    - SILICOMANGANESE
    - SULPHUR, UN 1350
    - TIMBER
    - VANADIUM ORE
    - WOODCHIPS, with moisture content of 15% or more
    - ZINC ASHES, UN 1435

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\* When loaded and transported under the provisions of the IMSBC Code.

- 3 Solid bulk cargoes which are not listed in the IMSBC Code, provided that:
  - .1 they are assessed in accordance with section 1.3 of the Code;
  - .2 they do not present hazards of Group B as defined in the Code; and
  - .3 a certificate has been provided by the competent authority of the port of loading to the master in accordance with 1.3.2 of the Code.

**TABLE 2****LIST OF SOLID BULK CARGOES FOR WHICH A FIXED GAS FIRE-EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM IS INEFFECTIVE AND FOR WHICH A FIRE-EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM GIVING EQUIVALENT PROTECTION SHALL BE AVAILABLE**

The following cargoes categorized into Group B of the IMSBC Code:

ALUMINIUM NITRATE, UN 1438

AMMONIUM NITRATE, UN 1942 (with not more than 0.2% total combustible material, including any organic substance, calculated as carbon to the exclusion of any other added substance)

AMMONIUM NITRATE BASED FERTILIZER, UN 2067

AMMONIUM NITRATE BASED FERTILIZER, UN 2071

BARIUM NITRATE, UN 1446

CALCIUM NITRATE, UN 1454

LEAD NITRATE, UN 1469

MAGNESIUM NITRATE, UN 1474

POTASSIUM NITRATE, UN 1486

SODIUM NITRATE, UN 1498

SODIUM NITRATE AND POTASSIUM NITRATE, MIXTURE, UN 1499

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