



Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Federal Republic of Germany

Berufsgenossenschaft für Transport und Verkehrswirtschaft
Dienststelle Schiffssicherheit



Circular 04/2015 (ISM/MLC)

Subject: Carriage of atmosphere testing instruments for entering enclosed spaces

Reference: ISM Code 1.2.3 + 7. + 8., MLC Regulation 4.3

Attachments: IMO Resolution MSC.380(94), IMO-Circular MSC.1/Circ.1477, IMO-Circular MSC.1/Circ.1485

Date: 22.06.2015

In its 94th Session the IMO Maritime Safety Committee adopted with Resolution MSC.380(94) amendments to SOLAS Chapter XI-1 which shall enter into force on **01.07.2016**.

1. Amendments

The following new regulation 7 is added after existing regulation 6 in Chapter XI-1:

Regulation 7 – Atmosphere testing instrument for enclosed spaces

Every ship to which chapter I applies shall carry an appropriate portable atmosphere testing instrument or instruments. As a minimum, these shall be capable of measuring concentrations of oxygen, flammable gases or vapours, hydrogen sulphide and carbon monoxide prior to entry into enclosed spaces. Instruments carried under other requirements may satisfy this regulation. Suitable means shall be provided for the calibration of all such instruments.

2. Guidelines for the selection of atmosphere testing instruments

The IMO-Circular MSC.1/Circ.1477 GUIDELINES TO FACILITATE THE SELECTION OF PORTABLE ATMOSPHERE TESTING INSTRUMENTS FOR ENCLOSED SPACES AS REQUIRED BY SOLAS REGULATION XI-1/7 shall be observed in the selection of a suitable atmosphere testing instrument.

3. Enclosed space entry and rescue drills

According to SOLAS Regulation III/19.3.3 crew members with enclosed space entry and rescue responsibilities shall participate in corresponding safety drills at least once every two months. Instructions about checking and use of atmosphere testing instruments shall be included in the safety drills. (for further details please refer to Circular 02/2014 (ISM))

4. Early implementation of the new SOLAS Regulation XI-1/7

The IMO Maritime Safety Committee invited SOLAS Contracting Governments with Circular MSC.1/Circ.1485 to implement SOLAS Regulation XI-1/7 at an earlier stage. Considering the risks associated with entering enclosed spaces and to provide a safe working environment for critical ship operations it is therefore recommended to provide the ships **before** 01.07.2016 with one or more atmosphere testing instruments that comply with the requirements of the new SOLAS Regulation XI-1/7 and the Guidelines contained in MSC.1/Circ.1477.

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