

SUB-COMMITTEE ON CARRIAGE OF
CARGOES AND CONTAINERS
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Agenda item 10

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**UNIFIED INTERPRETATION OF PROVISIONS OF IMO SAFETY, SECURITY,
AND ENVIRONMENT-RELATED CONVENTIONS**

Draft unified interpretation of paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code

Submitted by IACS and SGMF

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document proposes a unified interpretation of paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code to facilitate the universal and uniform implementation of the IGF Code.

Strategic direction, if applicable: 7

Output: 7.1

Action to be taken: Paragraph 8

Related documents: None

Introduction

1 The International Code of Safety for Ships using Gases or other Low-flashpoint Fuels, as amended by resolution MSC.391(95) (the IGF Code), provides an international standard for ships using low-flashpoint fuel, other than ships covered by the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (the IGC Code).

2 The co-sponsors identified requirements in need of clarification to facilitate their universal and uniform implementation.

Background

3 Paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code states:

"Fuel pipes shall not be located less than 800 mm from the ship's side."

4 Paragraph 5.2.2.1 of the IGC Code states:

"5.2.2.1 Any piping system that may contain cargo liquid or vapour shall:

...

.5 be located inboard of the transverse tank location requirements of 2.4.1, except for athwartship shore connection piping not subject to internal pressure at sea or emergency cargo jettisoning piping systems."

Discussion

5 Paragraph 5.2.2.1 of the IGC Code indicates that vent piping "...shall be located inboard of the transverse tank location requirement of paragraph 2.4.1..." of the IGC Code. The co-sponsors consider that the IGF Code requirement, with respect to transverse location of fuel piping, is unclear in relation to vent pipes as the term "fuel pipe" is not defined in the IGF Code to include vent pipes.

6 However, the IGF Code clearly considers the general term "fuel pipes" to also include vent pipes, e.g. as demonstrated by paragraph 9.5.2 of the IGF Code clarifying paragraph 9.5.1 of the same Code, which only uses the term "fuel gas vent pipes", as follows:

"9.5.2 The requirement in 9.5.1 need not be applied for fully welded fuel gas vent pipes led through mechanically ventilated spaces."

Proposal

7 Considering that the fuel gas vent piping system integrity should be maintained after a transverse damage to the ship, and in order to maintain alignment between the IGC Code and the IGF Code, on this topic, IACS proposes a unified interpretation of paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code, as set out in the annex, for consideration of the Sub-Committee.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

8 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the foregoing, the proposal in paragraph 7 and the draft unified interpretation, as set out in the annex, and take action, as appropriate.

ANNEX

**DRAFT UNIFIED INTERPRETATION OF PARAGRAPH 5.7.1 OF THE IGF CODE
ON MINIMUM TRANSVERSE DISTANCE TO SHELL FOR
GAS FUEL VENT PIPING**

Paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code states:

"5.7.1 Fuel pipes shall not be located less than 800 mm from the ship's side."

Interpretation

The term "fuel pipes", as used in paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code, should be considered to also include fuel tank vent piping and all other fuel gas vent piping. The transverse distance requirement should be made applicable for such piping.
