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Agenda item 3

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AMENDMENTS TO THE IGF CODE AND DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR ALTERNATIVE FUELS AND RELATED TECHNOLOGIES

Amendment to paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code

Submitted by IACS and SGMF

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document proposes an amendment to paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code.

*Strategic direction, 2
if applicable:*

Output: 2.3

Action to be taken: Paragraph 9

Related documents: CCC 10/10 and CCC 10/16

Introduction

1 The IGF Code (resolution MSC.391(95)) provides an international standard for ships using low-flashpoint fuel, other than ships covered by the IGC Code. Part A-1 of the IGF Code addresses specific requirements for ships using natural gas as fuel.

2 This document refers to the decision of CCC 10 (CCC 10/16, paragraphs 10.4 to 10.6) and proposes an amendment to paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code, pertaining to the inclusion of vent pipes in the existing regulation.

Background

3 CCC 10, having considered document CCC 10/10 (IACS and SGMF), proposing a unified interpretation (UI) of paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code to facilitate the universal and uniform implementation of the IGF Code, noted that the proposal would involve an amendment to paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code.

Discussion

4 Paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code states:

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

5 The co-sponsors consider that the requirement of paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code, with respect to transverse location of fuel piping, is unclear in relation to vent pipes, because 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 include also 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."

7 Further, in terms of alignment between the IGC Code and the IGF Code, paragraph 5.2.2.1 of the IGC Code should be considered, because it indicates vent piping "...shall be located inboard of the transverse tank location requirement of paragraph 2.4.1...".

Proposal

8 Considering that the fuel gas piping system integrity including fuel gas vent should be maintained after a transverse damage to the ship, and in order to maintain alignment between the IGC Code and the IGF Code and to respect the implication in the IGF Code, that fuel pipes generally include fuel gas vent pipes, the co-sponsors propose an amendment* to paragraph 5.7.1 of the IGF Code, as follows:

"5.7.1 Fuel pipes, including fuel gas vent pipes, shall not be located less than 800 mm from the ship's side."

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

9 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the foregoing, in particular the proposal in paragraph 8, and to take action, as appropriate.

* Tracked changes are indicated using "grey shading" to highlight new insertions.