



# RAYAH MARITIME SERVICES GROUP (RMSG)

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**Subject: CONTROL OF FIXED CARBON DIOXIDE FIRE-EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS**

Dear Sirs,

Chapter 5 of the International Code for Fire Safety Systems presents requirements for Fire Extinguishers. According to Paragraph 2.2.2 carbon dioxide systems shall comply with the following requirements:

- “.1 two separate controls shall be provided for releasing carbon dioxide into a protected Space and to ensure the activation of the alarm. One control shall be used for opening The valve of the piping which conveys the gas into the protected space and a second Control shall be used to discharge the gas from its storage containers; and
- .2 The two controls shall be located inside a release box clearly identified for the Particular space. If the box containing the controls is to be locked, a key to the box Shall be in a break-glass-type enclosure conspicuously located adjacent to the box.”

Furthermore, Regulation 10 of the revised SOLAS Chapter II-2 –PART C Suppression of fire, which came into force on January 1, 2009, provides requirements on fixed fire-extinguishing systems. According to Resolution **MSC.256 (84)** adopted May 16, 2008 the following new paragraph 4.1.5 is added after the existing paragraph 4.1.4:

“4.1.5 By the first scheduled dry-docking after 1 January 2010, fixed carbon dioxide fire extinguishing systems for the protection of machinery spaces and cargo pump-rooms on Ships constructed before 1 July 2002 shall comply with the provisions of paragraph 2.2.2 Of chapter 5 of the Fire Safety Systems Code.”

#### **APPLICABILITY:**

All ships that operate with carbon dioxide systems which do not comply with the above requirement should, well in advance of the next schedule docking after 1 January 2010, arrange modification of the CO2 system as per requirements.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

1. IMO (2008), “*Resolution MSC.256 (84) – Adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended*”. International Maritime Organization, 2008
2. IMO (2001), “*International Code for Fire Safety Systems (FSS Code)*”. International Maritime Organization, 2001. ISBN: 92-801-5111-8
3. IMO (2009), “*International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, Consolidated Edition 2009*”. Edition 5th, 2009. ISBN: 978-92-801-1505-5

Best regards

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