

Subject

Carriage of immersion suits on cargo ships flying Malta Flag

ClassNK

Technical Information

No. TEC-0953
Date 13 June 2013

To whom it may concern

With reference to the carriage of immersion suits on board Malta Flagged vessels, although ClassNK informed ClassNK Technical Information No. TEC-0658 and TEC-0901, Malta Government has noticed ClassNK of additional immersion suits as below (Technical Notice SLS.8 Rev.1).

- Immersion suits intended solely for training purposes and marked accordingly.
(The immersion suits intended for training purpose are to be non-vacuum packed immersion suits.)

ClassNK confirmed to Malta Government that the number of immersion suits is deemed by managers of ship under consideration of actual number of crew participating in the drill, drill content, etc. The immersion suits should be provided by 31 December 2013. The said number is not included in the Form E to the SE Certificate.

Further, the Malta Government has noticed ClassNK of the special requirements for Intervals of Air Pressure Test of Immersion Suit and Anti-Exposure Suit onboard Malta flagged vessels.

The Immersion Suit and Anti-Exposure Suit are also to be subjected to an air pressure test at intervals not exceeding 3 years, although the precious notice requires the interval is to be every 30 months (2 1/2 years) for suits of less than 10 years of age or every 12 months (1 year) for suits of 10 years of age over.

Testing should be performed at a suitable shore-based facility or alternatively on board ship provided that suitable testing equipment is available.

This ClassNK Technical Information supersedes ClassNK Technical Information No. TEC-0901.

(To be continued)

NOTES:

- ClassNK Technical Information is provided only for the purpose of supplying current information to its readers.
- ClassNK, its officers, employees and agents or sub-contractors do not warrant the accuracy of the information contained herein and are not liable for any loss, damage or expense sustained whatsoever by any person caused by use of or reliance on this information.
- Back numbers are available on ClassNK Internet Homepage (URL: www.classnk.or.jp).

For any questions about the above, please contact:

[Immersion suits for training purpose]

NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI (ClassNK)

Material and Equipment Department, Administration Center, Head Office

Address: 4-7, Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8567, Japan

Tel.: +81-3-5226-2020

Fax: +81-3-5226-2057

E-mail: eqd@classnk.or.jp

[Air Pressure Test]

Survey Department, Administration Center, Head Office

Address: 4-7 Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8567, Japan

Tel.: +81-3-5226-2027 / 2028

Fax: +81-3-5226-2029

E-mail: svd@classnk.or.jp

Attachment:

1. Technical Notice SLS.8 Rev.1



Merchant Shipping Directorate



IMMERSION SUITS AND ANTI-EXPOSURE SUITS

Technical Notice SLS.8 Rev.1

*Notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters,
Owners' Representatives and Recognised Organisations*

Reference is made to SOLAS 74 Chapter III Regulation 32.3, as amended.

In accordance with the provisions of Regulation 32.3.2 cargo ships, other than bulk carriers (as defined in SOLAS 74 Chapter IX Regulation 1), may be exempted from the requirement of Regulation 32.3.2 when such ships are constantly engaged on voyages within "warm climates". Following consideration of the guidance provided in MSC/Circ 1046 – Guidelines for the Assessment of Thermal Protection, this Administration has defined the following sea areas for the scope of application of the exemption provision:

- the sea area between the parallels of latitude 30° North and 30° South;
- the sea area of the Mediterranean Sea south of latitude 35° North;
- the sea area within 20 nautical miles from the coasts of Africa not included in the sea areas above.

On ships that are required to provide every person onboard with an immersion suit complying with the requirements of the Life-Saving Appliances Code Section 2.3 there shall also be available:

- at least two additional immersion suits of the same type located in the navigating bridge
- at least two additional immersion suits of the same type located in the engine room
- at least two additional immersion suits of the same type located at workstations where the crew performs its normal duties (except watch-keeping duties); if the horizontal distance from the workstations to the stowage position of the immersion suits is more than 100 metres.
- an adequate number of immersion suits intended solely for training purposes and marked accordingly. In the case of ships equipped with vacuum packed immersion suits an adequate number of non-vacuum packed immersion suits intended for training purpose are to be provided and these shall be marked accordingly.

Immersion Suits may be either stored at clearly identifiable locations close to the survival craft embarkation stations or may also be distributed to each individual member of the crew.

The monthly shipboard inspection of immersion suits and anti-exposure suits as required by SOLAS 74 Chapter III Regulation 20.7 shall take into account the guidelines contained in MSC/Circ.1047

Malta Transport Centre
Marsa, MRS 1917 Malta

Tel: +356 2125 0360 Fax: +356 2124 1460
Email: mershipmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt
www.transport.gov.mt/ship-registration

Transport Malta is the Authority for Transport in Malta set up by Act XV of 2009



Merchant Shipping Directorate



Transport Malta

Technical Notice SLS.8 Rev.1
Page 2 of 2

Air pressure testing of immersion suits and anti-exposure suits is to be carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and the guidance contained in MSC/Circ.1114, as applicable, at intervals not exceeding three years. Testing should be performed at a suitable shore-based facility or alternatively on board the ship provided that suitable testing equipment is available.

Any repairs to immersion suits or anti-exposure suits should be carried out by a facility having trained personnel and access to the manufacturer's instructions, parts and adhesives.

Lifejackets required by SOLAS 74 Chapter III Regulation 7.2 shall be available onboard regardless of the type of immersion suits provided.

Additional Information

MSC/Circ.1047 can be downloaded from: www.transport.gov.mt/admin/uploads/media-library/files/MSC.1-Circ.1047%20-%20Guidelines%20For%20Monthly%20Shipboard%20Inspection%20Of%20Immersion%20Suits%20And%20Anti-Exposure%20Suits.pdf

MSC/Circ. 1114 can be downloaded from: www.transport.gov.mt/admin/uploads/media-library/files/MSC.1-Circ.1114%20-%20Guidelines%20For%20Periodic%20Testing%20Of%20Immersion%20Suit%20And%20Anti-Exposure%20Suit%20Seams%20And%20Closures.pdf

Merchant Shipping Directorate

13 March 2013

Malta Transport Centre
Marsa, MRS 1917 Malta

Tel: +356 2125 0360 Fax: +356 2124 1460
Email: mershipmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt
www.transport.gov.mt/ship-registration

Transport Malta is the Authority for Transport in Malta set up by Act XV of 2009