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Engineering Circular No. 3 / 2013

NO: ENG/RSC/2089

Dated: 31st January 2013

Subject: General Procedural Guidance for Administration waivers for Offshore Support Vessels (OSVs) carrying limited amounts of hazardous and noxious liquid substances as per IMO Res. A.673(16) as amended.

1. Background:

IMO Resolutions A.673 (16), adopted by the General Assembly on 19th October 1989, which was further amended by MSC 236(82) recognizes that OSVs are called upon to carry hazardous materials to and from offshore installations, but that the type and quantity they carry are limited and therefore do not necessitate full compliance with prevailing IMO requirements in transportation of hazardous materials as contained in International Bulk Chemical (IBC) Code and MARPOL Annex II. The Resolution thus provides *alternative safety and pollution prevention requirements for OSVs* when carrying limited quantities of hazardous materials.

2. Purpose:

The above resolution permits Administration to waive off certain requirements for the vessels under its flag subject to specific conditions. This Directorate has been receiving requests from various ship owners for availing these provisions for waivers. This circular is being issued to streamline the process of such waivers and avoid case to case requests from companies in this regard.

3. Applicability:

This guideline applies to offshore vessel, regardless of size or voyage, that, while not constructed or adapted primarily to carry bulk cargoes subject to the guidelines issued by IMO vide Resolution A 673(16) as amended, carry, in limited quantities the substances identified in para 1.2.2 of the said guideline.

4. Waivers:

4.1 Requirement for efficient stripping and underwater discharge arrangements as required by MARPOL 73/78, Annex II:

4.1.1 Offshore support vessels as stated in para 3 above and carrying noxious liquid substances permitted for the carriage in Ship Type 3, or products listed in appendix 1 or ballast water, tank washings, or other residues or mixtures containing such substances, are waived off from the requirement for efficient stripping and underwater discharge arrangements as required by MARPOL 73/78, Annex II, in accordance with clause 4.2 of IMO Resolution A.673(16) as amended, provided that any such discharges of residues and mixture containing noxious liquid substances should be to reception facilities approved for the purpose by the concerned Port authorities and proper records maintained on board to that effect for the verification by competent authorities.

4.2 Requirement of segregation of machinery spaces from tanks containing cargo or residues of cargo which are subject to the provisions of guidelines issued by IMO vide Resolution A.673 (16) as amended:

4.2.1 Offshore support vessels as stated in para 3 above and carrying cargo or residues of cargo which are subject to the provisions of Guidelines issued by IMO vide Resolution A.673(16) as amended is waived off from the requirement of segregation of machinery spaces from tanks containing such cargo/ cargo residues, in accordance with Clause 3.1.1 of the said resolution, subject to:

4.2.1.1 the subject tanks carry pollutions hazard only substances having a flashpoint exceeding 60deg C (closed cup test).

4.2.1.2 the segregation requirements for accommodation spaces, drinking water and stores for human consumption, as required by para 3.1.1 of Resolution A673(16) as amended, is complied with.

5. Endorsement of Waivers

The above is subject to the condition that the Recognized Organization undertaking the applicable surveys shall verify the compliance of the above conditions and endorse the waiver on the 'Certificate of Fitness' of the vessel.

This is issued with the approval of the competent authority and comes into effect from the date of issue of this circular.

Durgesh
(DURGESH JHA)
Engineer & Ship Surveyor cum DDG(Tech)

To,

1. The Principal Officers/ Mercantile Marine Department, Mumbai/Kolkata/ Chennai/ Kandla/Cochin.
The Surveyor-in-charge, Mercantile Marine Department, Goa/Jamnagar/Port Blair /Visakhapatnam /Tuticorin /Delhi /Haldia/ Paradip /Mangalore.
3. All Classification Societies.
4. Indian National Shippers Association (INSA), Mumbai
5. All Shipping Companies
6. The Chief Surveyor with the Govt. of India
7. The Nautical Adviser to the Govt. of India
8. CSS
9. The Engineering Branch
10. The Nautical Branch
11. Hindi Cell
12. Guard file.
13. Computer Cell

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