



Venezuelan Register Of Shipping Ltd.

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Circular Letter 002/2016

Date: 05.05.2016

Attn.: VRS Authorized Surveyors / Shipowners / Ship Managers

Subject: Amendments SOLAS 74, CHAPTER XI-1, SOCIAL MEASURES TO ENHANCE MARITIME SAFETY, REG.7 "ATMOSPHERE TESTING INSTRUMENT FOR ENCLOSED SPACES".

Dear Sirs,

Kindly be informed, that as per IMO Resolution MSC.380(94), the amendments have been accepted to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, Chapter XI-1 Special Measures to Enhance Maritime Safety, Regulation 7 "Atmosphere testing instrument for enclosed spaces". The mentioned Regulation will become mandatory for every ship to which SOLAS 74, Chapter I applies, starting from the 01st of July 2016. Kindly find below text of IMO Resolution MSC.380(94):

CHAPTER XI-1 SPECIAL MEASURES TO ENHANCE MARITIME SAFETY

The following new Regulation 7 is added after existing regulation 6:

"Regulation 7 – Atmosphere testing instrument for enclosed spaces

Every ship to which chapter I applies shall carry an appropriate portable atmosphere testing instrument or instruments*. As a minimum, these shall be capable of measuring concentrations of oxygen, flammable gases or vapours, hydrogen sulphide and carbon monoxide prior to entry into enclosed spaces**. Instruments carried under other requirements may satisfy this regulation. Suitable means shall be provided for the calibration of all such instruments.

* Refer to the *Guidelines to facilitate the selection of portable atmosphere testing instruments for enclosed spaces as required by SOLAS regulation XI-1/7* (MSC.1/Circ.1477).

** Refer to the *Revised recommendations for entering enclosed spaces aboard ships* (resolution A.1050(27))."

Kindly be guided accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

Kristina Melikyan
Chief Executive Officer
Venezuelan Register of Shipping Ltd.

