
GF9 Special consideration within the risk assessment of closed or semi-enclosed bunkering stations

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The International Code of Safety for Ships Using Gases or Other Low-Flashpoint Fuels (IGF Code), MSC Res.391(95), at paragraph 8.3.1.1 states:

The bunkering station shall be located on open deck so that sufficient natural ventilation is provided. Closed or semi-enclosed bunkering stations shall be subject to special consideration within the risk assessment.

Interpretation

The special consideration shall as a minimum include, but not be restricted to, the following design features:

- segregation towards other areas on the ship
- hazardous area plans for the ship
- requirements for forced ventilation
- requirements for leakage detection (e.g. gas detection and low temperature detection)
- safety actions related to leakage detection (e.g. gas detection and low temperature detection)
- access to bunkering station from non-hazardous areas through airlocks
- monitoring of bunkering station by direct line of sight or by CCTV.

Note:

1. This Unified Interpretation is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies on ships contracted for construction on or after 1 January 2018.

2. The “contracted for construction” date means the date on which the contract to build the vessel is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. For further details regarding the date of “contract for construction”, refer to IACS Procedural Requirement (PR) No. 29.

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