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Circular Letter 010/2023

Date: 06.09.2023

Attn.: Authorized Surveyors, Ship Owners, Operators, Managers

Subject: Water level detectors on multiple hold cargo ships other than bulk carriers and tankers.

In accordance with IMO Resolution MSC.482(103) "AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974 (SOLAS 1974)", Chapter II-1, CONSTRUCTION – STRUCTURE, SUBDIVISION AND STABILITY, MACHINERY AND ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS, Part B-4 Stability management, new regulation 25-1 "**Water level detectors on multiple hold cargo ships other than bulk carriers and tankers**" is added. The amendments are entering into the force from the 1st of January 2024.

Kindly find below the text of **Regulation 25-1 "Water level detectors on multiple hold cargo ships other than bulk carriers and tankers"**:

1. Multiple hold cargo ships other than bulk carriers and tankers constructed on or after 1 January 2024 shall be fitted with water level detectors* in each cargo hold intended for dry cargoes. Water level detectors are not required for cargo holds located entirely above the freeboard deck.
2. The water level detectors required by paragraph 1 shall:
 - .1 give audible and visual alarms at the navigation bridge, one when the water level above the bottom of the cargo hold reaches a height of not less than 0.3 m, and another at a height not less than 15% of the depth of the cargo hold but not more than 2 m; and
 - .2 be fitted at the aft end of the cargo holds. For cargo holds which are occasionally used for water ballast, an alarm overriding device may be installed. The visual alarms shall clearly discriminate between the two different water levels detected in each hold.
3. As an alternative to the water level detector at a height of not less than 0.3 m as per sub-paragraph 2.1, a bilge level sensor* serving the bilge pumping arrangements required by regulation 35-1 and installed in the cargo hold bilge wells or other suitable location is considered acceptable, subject to:
 - .1 the fitting of the bilge level sensor at a height of not less than 0.3 m at the aft end of the cargo hold; and
 - .2 the bilge level sensor giving audible and visual alarm at the navigation bridge which is clearly distinctive from the alarm given by the other water level detector fitted in the cargo hold.

**Refer to the Performance standards for water level detectors on bulk carriers and single hold cargo ships other than bulk carriers (resolution MSC.188(79)), as may be amended.*

Kindly confirm receipt and acknowledgment of Circular Letter 010/2023 by signing and returning to the Head Office Receipt Form.

Kindly be guided accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

Kristina Melikyan

