INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

E

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

MSC.1/Circ.1556
25 November 2016

UNIFIED INTERPRETATION OF CHAPTER 8 OF THE FSS CODE AND THE REVISED GUIDELINES FOR APPROVAL OF SPRINKLER SYSTEMS EQUIVALENT TO THAT REFERRED TO IN SOLAS REGULATION II-2/12 (RESOLUTION A.800(19)), AS AMENDED BY RESOLUTION MSC.265(84)

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its ninety-seventh session (21 to 25 November 2016), with a view to providing more specific guidance on sizing of pumps and pressure tank for automatic sprinkler systems, approved a unified interpretation of chapter 8 of the FSS Code and the *Revised guidelines for approval of sprinkler systems equivalent to that referred to in SOLAS regulation II-2/12* (resolution A.800(19)), as amended by resolution MSC.265(84), prepared by the Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment at its third session (14 to 18 March 2016), as set out in the annex.

2 Member States are invited to use the annexed unified interpretation as guidance when applying paragraphs 2.3.2.1, 2.3.3.2 and 2.5.2.3 of chapter 8 of the FSS Code and paragraphs 3.3 and 3.22 in the aforementioned Revised guidelines, as amended by resolution MSC.265(84), in sizing of pumps and pressure tank for automatic sprinkler systems, and to bring the unified interpretation to the attention of all parties concerned.

***

IMO WORLD MARITIME DAY 2016
SHIPPING
INDISPENSABLE TO THE WORLD

ANNEX

UNIFIED INTERPRETATION OF CHAPTER 8 OF THE FSS CODE AND THE REVISED GUIDELINES FOR APPROVAL OF SPRINKLER SYSTEMS EQUIVALENT TO THAT REFERRED TO IN SOLAS REGULATION II-2/12 (RESOLUTION A.800(19)), AS AMENDED BY RESOLUTION MSC.265(84)

CHAPTER 8 OF THE FSS CODE

Automatic sprinkler, fire detection and fire alarm systems

For sizing the sprinkler pumps and pressure tank, the calculation method should be as follows:

.1 for sprinkler systems in accordance with chapter 8 of the FSS Code, the pump capacity and pressure tank volume should be calculated by multiplying the 5 l/m^2/min application rate times the area of 280 m^2;

.2 for equivalent sprinkler systems, the pump capacity and pressure tank volume, or other means meeting the functional requirements stipulated in paragraph 2.3.2.1 of chapter 8 of the FSS Code should be calculated by multiplying the highest application rate of the most hydraulically demanding area at the minimum design pressure, as determined by full scale fire testing according to the *Revised guidelines for approval of sprinkler systems equivalent to that referred to in SOLAS regulation II-2/12* (resolution A.800(19)), as amended by resolution MSC.265(84), times the area of 280 m^2. In cases where multiple types of spaces are located within the hydraulically most demanding 280 m^2 area, the application rate of each respective area should be applied;

.3 for application to a ship with the largest area separated from adjacent spaces by A-class divisions of less than 280 m^2, the area required when sizing pumps and alternate supply components is the largest given area; and

.4 for application to a ship with a total protected area of less than 280 m^2 the Administration may specify the appropriate area for sizing of pumps and alternate supply components.

_____