

## CIRCULAR: EHS/PM/02/17

Dated: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017

To: All Shipping Lines, Shipping Agents, Vessel Owners, Masters and  
Tanker Berth Users

### **Subject: Inert Gas System (IG) Requirements for Tankers**

For tankers of 20,000 tonnes deadweight and up wards constructed on or after 01 July 2002 but before 01 January 2016, the protection of the cargo tanks shall be achieved by a fixed inert gas system in accordance with the requirement of the Fire Safety System Code, as adopted by resolution MSC.98 (73), except that the Administration may accept other equivalent systems or arrangements.

For tankers of 8000 tonnes deadweight and upwards constructed on or after 01 January 2016 when carrying cargoes described in regulations 1.6.1 or 1.6.2 the protection of cargo tanks shall be activated by a fixed inert gas system in accordance with the requirements of the Fire Safety System Code ,except that the Administration may accepts other equivalent systems or arrangements.

Tankers operating with a cargo tank cleaning procedure using crude oil washing shall be fitted with an inert gas system complying with the Fire Safety System Code and with fixed tank washing machines, However inert gas systems fitted in tankers constructed on or after 01 July 2002 but before 01 January 2016 comply with the Fire Safety System Code, as adopted by resolution MSC.98 (73).

Tankers required to be fitted with inert gas system shall comply with the following provisions;

- 1, double hull spaces shall be fitted with suitable connections for the supply of inert gas.
- 2, where hull spaces are connected to a permanently fitted inert gas distribution system, means shall be provided to prevent hydrocarbon gases from the cargo tanks entering the double hull spaces through the system; and
- 3, where such spaces are not permanently connected to an inert distribution system, appropriate means shall be provided to allow connection to the inert gas main.

### **Inert Gas System (IG) Requirements for Chemical Tankers and Gas Carriers**

The requirements for inert gas system contained in the Fire Safety System Code need not be applied to chemical tankers constructed before 01 January 2016, including those constructed before 01 July 2012, and all gas carriers;

- 1, when carrying cargoes described in regulations 1.6.1 , provided that they comply with the requirements for inert gas system on chemical tankers established by the Administrations ,based on the guidelines developed by the Organization; or

2, when carrying flammable cargoes other than crude oil or petroleum products such as cargoes listed in chapter 17 and 18 of the International Bulk Chemical Code, provided that the capacity of tanks used for their carriages does not exceed 3,000m<sup>3</sup> and the individual nozzle capacities of tank washing machines do not exceed 17.5m<sup>3</sup>/h and the total combined throughput from the number of machines in use in a cargo tank at any one time does not exceed 110m<sup>3</sup>/h.

### **General Requirement for Inert Gas System (IG)**

The inert gas system shall be capable of inerting, purging and gas-freeing empty tanks and maintaining the atmosphere in cargo tanks with the required oxygen content.

Tankers fitted with inert gas system shall be provided with a closed ullage system.

### **Requirements for Equivalent Systems**

The Administration may, after having given consideration to the ships arrangements and equipments.

For tankers of 8,000 tonnes deadweight and upwards but less than 20,000 tonnes deadweight constructed on or after 01 January 2016, in lieu of fixed installations as required, the Administration may accept other equivalent arrangements or means of protection in accordance with regulations

### **Equivalent Systems or Arrangements Shall;**

- 1, be capable of preventing dangerous accumulations of explosives mixture in intact cargo tanks during normal service throughout the ballast voyage and necessary in-tank operations; and
- 2, be so designed as to minimize the risk of ignition from the generation of static electricity by the system itself.

**Tankers not in compliance with the above directive will be refused permission to call Jebel Ali Port.**

**Port Authority shall have all rights to reject or conditionally accept tankers as per its convenience.**

**References:**

- SOLAS Consolidated Edition 2014.
- Resolution MSC.365 (93).
- Resolution MSC.98 (73).
- Resolution 567(14).
- Fire Safety System Code.
- International Bulk Chemical Code.

For Further Information / Clarification Please Contact

EHS Ports & Maritime Operations Department

Tel: 04-8811881; Email: [EHS.PORTS@Trk.Pcfc.ae](mailto:EHS.PORTS@Trk.Pcfc.ae)

Or

Jebel Ali Marine Department

Tel: 04-8899599; Email: [MarineJA.Planners@dpworld.com](mailto:MarineJA.Planners@dpworld.com)

Sincerely,



2017.02.28  
15:04:18  
+04'00'

**Eng. Madiha Salem**  
EHS Director  
Environment, Health & Safety – Trakhees



**Captain Nasser Sabt**  
Harbour Master – Jebel Ali Port  
DP World

Cc:  
DP World – Harbour Master Office.  
DP World – Marketing & Commercial Departments.