Part A – General

Regulation 2 - Fire Safety Objectives and Functional Requirements

1 Fire safety objectives

1.1 The fire safety objectives of this chapter are to:

1.1.1 prevent the occurrence of fire and explosion;

1.1.2 reduce the risk to life caused by fire;

1.1.3 reduce the risk of damage caused by fire to the ship, its cargo and the environment;

1.1.4 contain, control and suppress fire and explosion in the compartment of origin; and

1.1.5 provide adequate and readily accessible means of escape for passengers and crew.

2 Functional requirements

2.1 In order to achieve the fire safety objectives set out in paragraph 1, the following functional requirements are embodied in the regulations of this chapter as appropriate:

2.1.1 division of the ship into main vertical and horizontal zones by thermal and structural boundaries;

2.1.2 separation of accommodation spaces from the remainder of the ship by thermal and structural boundaries;

2.1.3 restricted use of combustible materials;

2.1.4 detection of any fire in the zone of origin;

2.1.5 containment and extinction of any fire in the space of origin;

2.1.6 protection of means of escape and access for fire fighting;

2.1.7 ready availability of fire-extinguishing appliances; and

2.1.8 minimization of possibility of ignition of flammable cargo vapour.

3 Achievement of the fire safety objectives

The fire safety objectives set out in paragraph 1 shall be achieved by ensuring compliance with the prescriptive requirements specified in parts C, D, E or G, or by alternative design and arrangements which comply with Part F. A ship shall be considered to meet the functional requirements set out in paragraph 2 and to achieve the fire safety objectives set out in paragraph 1 when either:

3.1 the ship's design and arrangements, as a whole, comply with the relevant prescriptive requirements in parts C, D, E or G;

3.2 the ship's design and arrangements, as a whole, have been reviewed and approved in accordance with part F; or
3.3 part(s) of the ship's design and arrangements have been reviewed and approved in accordance with part F and the remaining parts of the ship comply with the relevant prescriptive requirements in parts , C, D, E or G.

MCA Guidance

None