



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

Amendments to the Revised Guidelines for the Approval of Equivalent Water-Based Fire-Extinguishing Systems for Machinery Spaces and Cargo Pump-Rooms (MSC/Circ.1165)

Notice to all Ship Designers, Shipowners, Test Laboratories and Manufacturers of Marine Equipment

This notice should be read with IMO MSC.1/Circ.1237

PLEASE NOTE:-

Where this document provides guidance on the law it should not be regarded as definitive. The way the law applies to any particular case can vary according to circumstances - for example, from vessel to vessel and you should consider seeking independent legal advice if you are unsure of your own legal position.

Summary

The Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization has issued a circular (MSC.1/Circ.1237) on "Amendments to the Revised Guidelines for the Approval of Equivalent Water-Based Fire-Extinguishing Systems for Machinery Spaces and Cargo Pump-Rooms (MSC/Circ.1165)", and asked that the circular be brought to the attention of Ship Designers, Shipowners, Test Laboratories and Manufacturers of Marine Equipment.

1. Introduction/ Background

1.1 In October 2007 at the 83rd session of the International Maritime Organization's Maritime Safety Committee, the Committee approved amendments to figures 1, 2 and 3 of the Revised Guidelines for the approval of equivalent water-based fire-extinguishing systems for machinery spaces and cargo pump-rooms (MSC/Circ.1165).

1.2 The Maritime Safety Committee issued Circular 1237 that invites Member Governments to apply the amendments to the Revised Guidelines when approving equivalent water-based fire-extinguishing systems for machinery spaces and cargo pump-rooms and bring them to the attention of all relevant stakeholders.

2. General

2.1 The amendments to these Revised Guidelines will apply when approving new equivalent water-based fire-extinguishing systems for machinery spaces and cargo pump-rooms.

When applying these Revised Guidelines, reference should also be made to the following IACS Unified Interpretations regarding the fire testing of equivalent water-based fire extinguishing systems:

SC218 – IMO MSC/Circ.1165, Appendix B, 4.5.1

SC219 – IMO MSC/Circ.1165, Appendix B, 4.5.4.1

These documents can be downloaded from the IACS website:

http://www.iacs.org.uk/document/public/publications/unified_interpretations/pdf/ui_sc_pdf169.pdf

2.2 Existing approvals of equivalent water-based fire-extinguishing systems for machinery spaces and cargo pump-rooms will remain valid, provided that no modifications / alterations have been carried out to the original system specification.

2.3 MSC.1/Circ.1237 can be found as an addendum to this MGN, or can be downloaded from the IMO website:
http://www.imo.org/includes/blastDataOnly.asp/data_id%3D20571/1237.pdf

2.4 In issuing this MGN, the United Kingdom brings the above to the attention of Ship Designers, Shipowners, Test Laboratories and Manufacturers of Marine Equipment.

More Information

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE APPROVAL OF
EQUIVALENT WATER-BASED FIRE-EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS FOR
MACHINERY SPACES AND CARGO PUMP-ROOMS (MSC/CIRC.1165)**

1 The Committee, at its eightieth session (11 to 20 May 2005), after having considered the proposal by the forty-ninth session of the Sub-Committee on Fire Protection regarding review on the Guidelines for the approval of equivalent water-based fire-extinguishing systems as referred to in SOLAS 74 for machinery spaces and cargo pump-rooms (MSC/Circ.668 as amended by MSC/Circ.728), approved Revised Guidelines for the approval of equivalent water-based fire-extinguishing systems for machinery spaces and cargo pump-rooms (MSC/Circ.1165).

2 The Sub-Committee on Fire Protection, at its fifty-first session (5 to 9 February 2007), reviewed the Revised Guidelines for the approval of equivalent water-based fire-extinguishing systems for machinery spaces and cargo pump-rooms (MSC/Circ.1165) and, acknowledging figures 1, 2 and 3 in the Revised Guidelines did not clearly illustrate the recommended fire test configurations and spray fire locations, revised the aforementioned figures accordingly to clearly show the specified test arrangements.

3 The Committee, at its eighty-third session (3 to 12 October 2007), after having considered the above proposal, approved amendments to figures 1, 2 and 3 of the Revised Guidelines for the approval of equivalent water-based fire-extinguishing systems for machinery spaces and cargo pump-rooms (MSC/Circ.1165), as set out in the annex.

4 Member Governments are invited to apply the amendments to the Revised Guidelines when approving equivalent water-based fire-extinguishing systems for machinery spaces and pump-rooms and bring them to the attention of ship designers, shipowners, equipment manufacturers, test laboratories and other parties concerned.

ANNEX

AMENDMENTS TO THE REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE APPROVAL OF EQUIVALENT WATER-BASED FIRE-EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS FOR MACHINERY SPACES AND CARGO PUMP-ROOMS (MSC/CIRC.1165)

1 The existing figures 1, 2 and 3 are replaced by the following figures 1, 2 and 3, respectively:

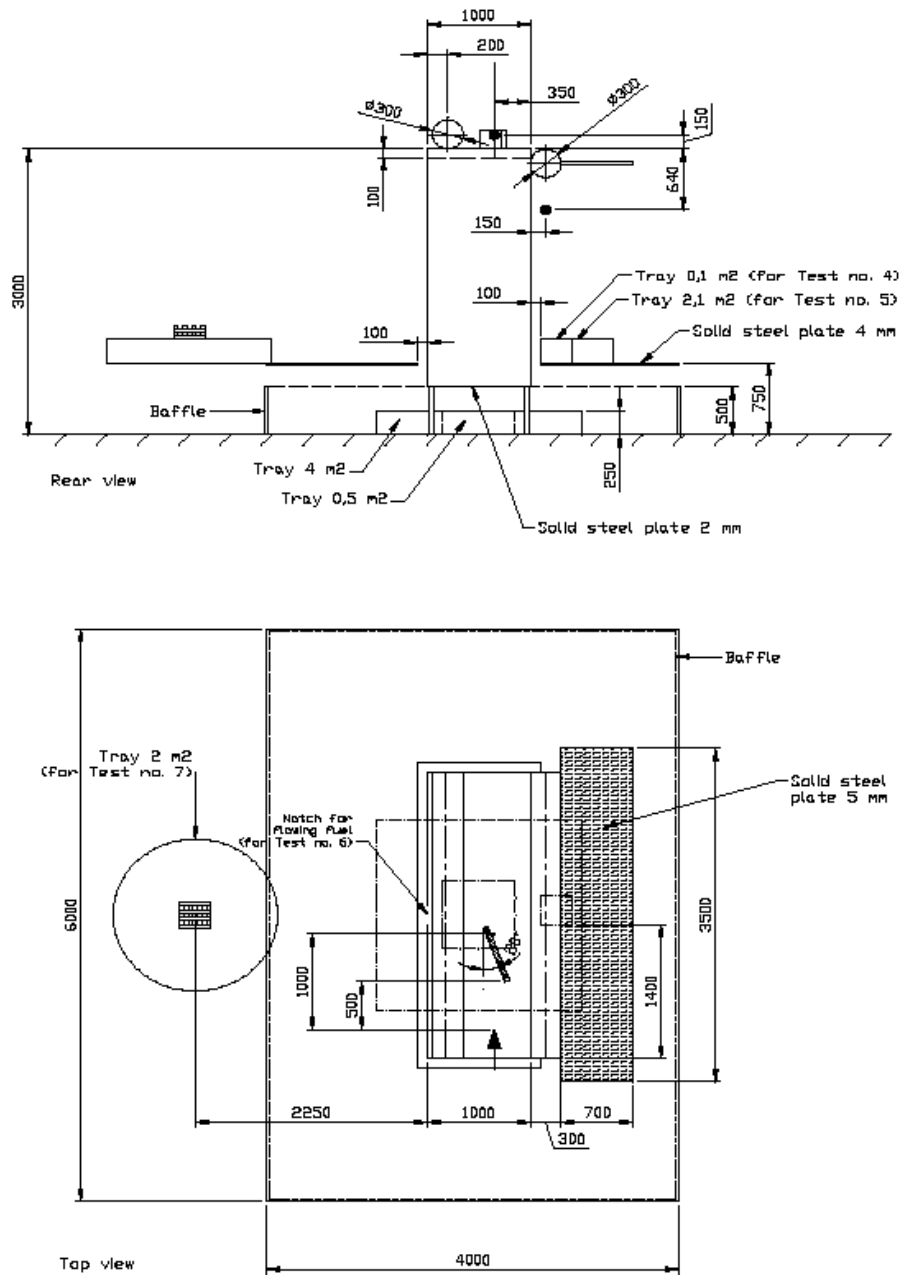


Figure 1

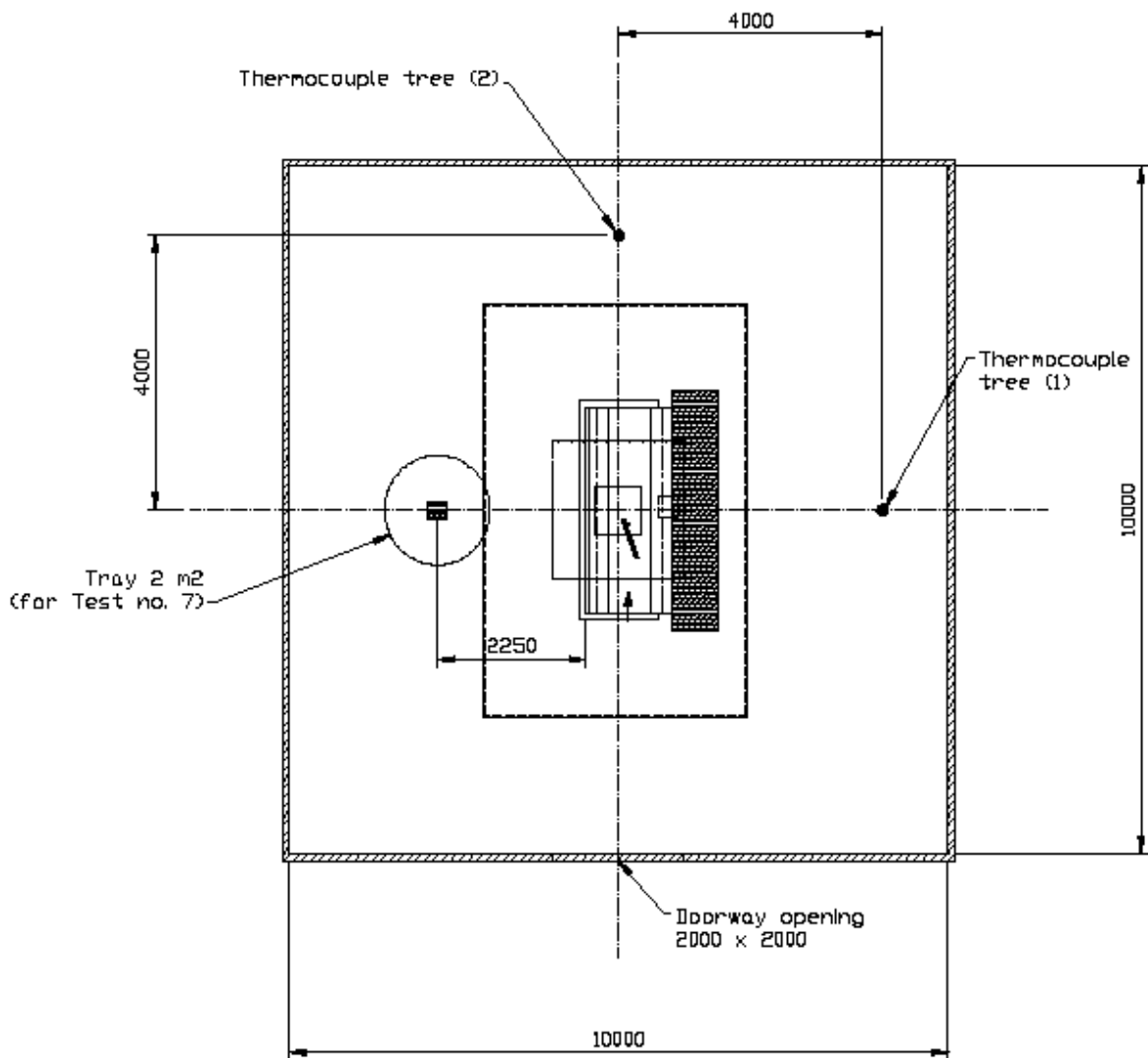
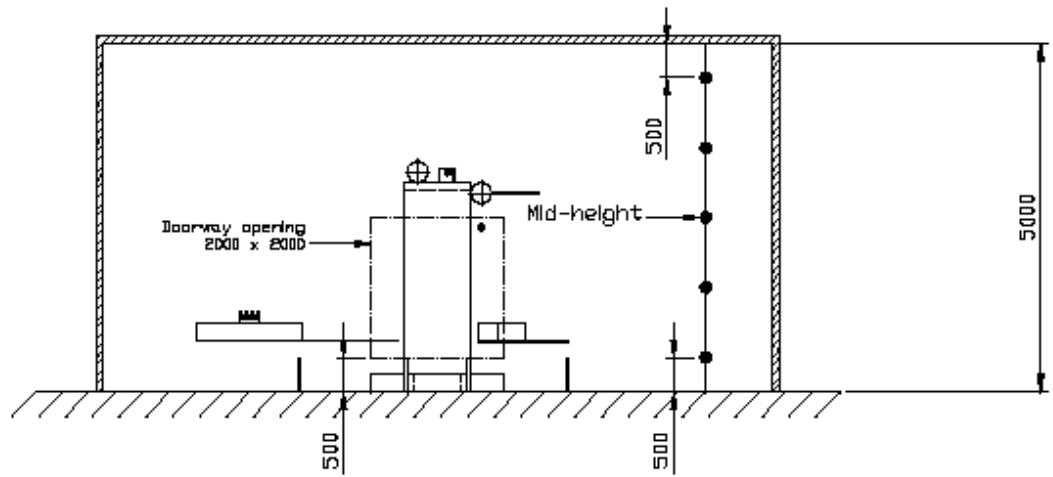


Figure 2

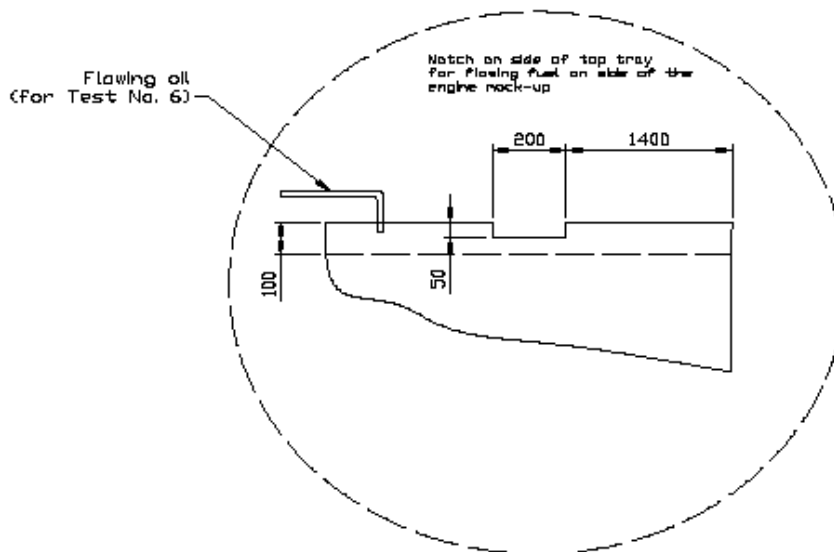
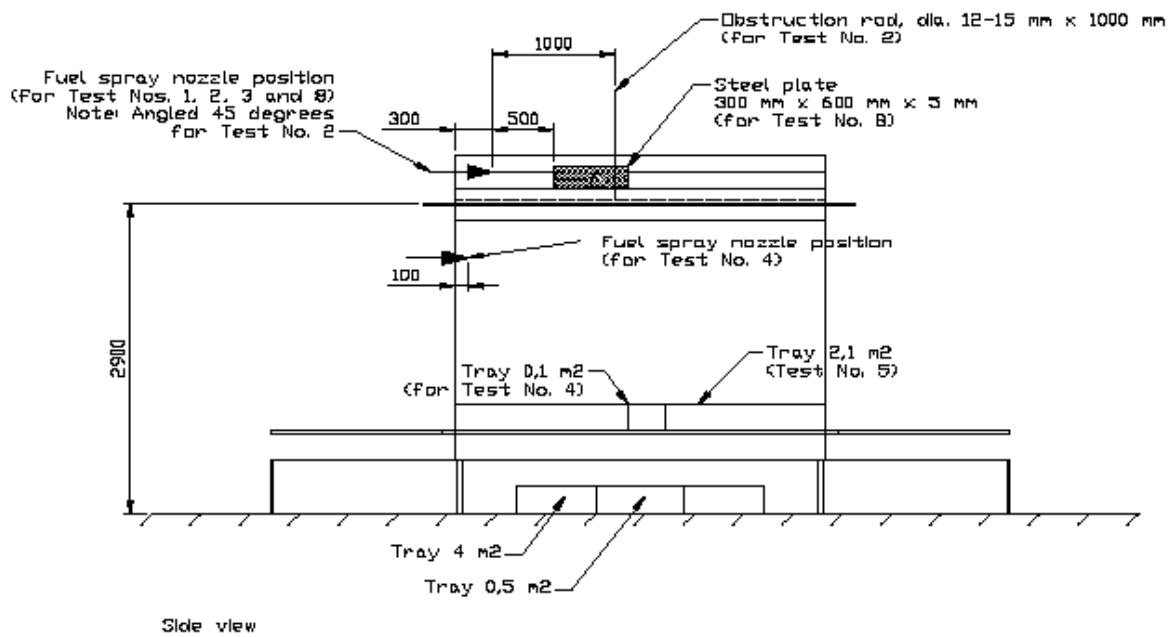


Figure 3