STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1984 No. 1221

MERCHANT SHIPPING

SAFETY

The Merchant Shipping (Fire Appliances) (Amendment) Regulations 1984

Made - - - -	*2nd August* 1984
Laid before Parliament	*10th August* 1984
Coming into Operation	*1st September* 1984

The Secretary of State, after consulting with the persons referred to in section 22(2) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1979(**a**), in exercise of the powers conferred on him by subsections (1)(*a*), (3)(*a*), (*d*), (*j*) and (*o*) of section 21 and by section 22(1)(*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) of that Act and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Fire Appliances) (Amendment) Regulations 1984 and shall come into operation on 1st September 1984.

2. The Merchant Shipping (Fire Appliances) Regulations 1980(**b**) shall be further amended as follows:—

(1) in regulation 1(3) sub-paragraph (*a*), after the words "United Kingdom ships" there shall be added "except those the keels of which were laid or which were at a similar stage of construction on or after 1st September 1984; and for the purposes of this paragraph "similar stage of construction" means a stage at which:

(i) construction identifiable with a particular ship began; and

(ii) assembly of that ship has commenced comprising at least 50 tonnes or one per cent of the estimated mass of all structural material whichever is the less";

(2) in regulation 39(3) (Firemen's outfits), for the words "of 2000 tons or over" there shall be substituted "which is a United Kingdom ship of 500 tons or over or a ship other than a United Kingdom ship of 2000 tons or over and which is";

(3) after regulation 64 (Additional requirements for ships carrying explosives) there shall be added the following regulation:—

(**a**) 1979 c. 39.
(**b**) S.I. 1980/544, to which there is an amendment not relevant to these Regulations.

"*Combination carriers*

64A. Combination carriers which are United Kingdom ships shall not carry solid cargoes unless all cargo tanks are empty of crude oil and other petroleum products having a closed flash point not exceeding 60°C, and other liquids having a similar fire hazard and are gas freed, or unless the arrangements provided in each case are in accordance with the relevant operational requirements contained in the "Guidelines for Inert Gas Systems" and to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State.

"Guidelines for Inert Gas Systems" is MSC/Circ. 353 which forms part of the publication "Inert Gas Systems", 1983 edition published by the International Maritime Organization.";

(4) in regulation 73 (Fire control plans) after paragraph (4) there shall be added:—

"(5) In United Kingdom ships to which this regulation applies, instructions concerning the maintenance and operation of all the equipment and installations on board for the fighting and containment of fire shall be kept under one cover, readily available in an accessible position.".

Nicholas Ridley,
Secretary of State for Transport.

2nd August 1984.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations.*)

These Regulations further amend the Merchant Shipping (Fire Appliances) Regulations 1980 and give effect to the provisions of Chapter II-2 of the Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974 adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organisation at its forty-fifth session insofar as they apply to United Kingdom ships built on or after 25th May 1980 and have not, in relation to such ships, already been given effect to in United Kingdom law.

They disapply those Regulations from United Kingdom ships built on or after 1st September 1984, amend the requirements for firemen's outfits and impose more specific requirements for inert gas systems in combination carriers.

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