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Ref. T4/4.01

MSC/Circ.1083  
13 June 2003

**UNIFIED INTERPRETATION OF SOLAS REGULATION II-2/15.2.11, IN FORCE  
BEFORE 1 JULY 2002\***

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-seventh session (28 May to 6 June 2002), with a view to ensuring uniform application of the requirements of SOLAS chapter II-2 containing vague expressions open to diverging interpretations, approved the following interpretation of SOLAS regulation II-2/15.2.11, in force before 1 July 2002, stating that oil fuel piping shall be screened or otherwise suitably protected to avoid, as far as practicable, oil spray or oil leakages onto hot surfaces or into machinery intakes. The requirements have been in force since 1 July 1998 and ships constructed before that date shall comply with regulation II-2/15.2.11 not later than 1 July 2003.

**2 Interpretation of SOLAS regulation II-2/15.2.11**

Spray shields should be fitted around flanged joints, flanged bonnets and any other flanged or threaded connections in fuel oil piping systems under pressure exceeding  $0.18 \text{ N/mm}^2$  which are located above or near units of high temperature, including boilers, steam pipes, exhaust manifolds, silencers or other equipment required to be insulated by SOLAS regulation II-2/15.2.10.

3 Member Governments are invited to use the above interpretation as guidance when applying relevant provisions of SOLAS chapter II-2 to fire protection construction, installation, arrangements and equipment to be installed on board ships to which SOLAS regulation II-2/15.2.11, in force before 1 July 2002, applies, in order to fulfil the requirements of the 1974 SOLAS Convention, and to bring the interpretation to the attention of all parties concerned.

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\* As adopted by resolution MSC.31(63).