



# TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

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## MARINE CIRCULAR

### MC-14/2010/1

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**FOR:** Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Ship Officers, Classification Societies

**SUBJECT: FIRE EXTINGUISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR PAINT & FLAMMABLE LIQUID LOCKERS ON EXISTING VESSELS**

#### DEFINITIONS:

The following abbreviations stand for:

- “IMO” – International Maritime Organization
- “MSC” – Maritime Safety Committee (IMO)
- “SOLAS” – International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, as amended

The following terms shall mean:

- “Administration” – Tuvalu Ship Registry.
- “Portable Fire Extinguisher” – An extinguisher which is designed to be carried and operated by hand and which has a maximum fully charged weight of 23 kg (50.7 pounds). The minimum size for paint and flammable liquid lockers is either:
  - Carbon Dioxide; with a charge of 6.8 kg (15 pounds); or
  - Dry Chemical; with a charge of 4.5 kg (10 pounds).
- “Suitable Fixed Extinguishing System” – A system designed to a recognized standard and of a medium and capacity as follows:
  - Carbon Dioxide; for at least 40% of the space gross volume.
  - Dry Chemical; for at least 0.5 kg/cubic meter of space gross volume.
  - Water Spray; with at least 5 liters/square meter of deck area/minute.

#### PURPOSE:

IMO Resolution MSC.13(57) issued 11 April 1989 incorporated several amendments to SOLAS with effect on 1 February 1992. One of these amendments, Regulation 18.7 in Chapter II-2, stipulated requirements be established by administrations for fire extinguishing capability in paint lockers and flammable liquid lockers. This marine circular provides the Administration’s requirements based on the its interpretation of the intent of the regulation for vessels with a keel laid, or at a similar stage of construction, before 1 July 2002.

#### REFERENCES:

IMO Resolution MSC.13(57), 11 April 1989

#### APPLICATION:

This marine circular applies to all applicable Tuvalu flagged vessels.

## **CONTENTS:**

### **1. Requirements**

#### 1.1. Existing Vessels with Keel Laid before 1 February 1992

- 1.1.1. Lockers of 10m<sup>2</sup> (i.e. 5m x 2m) or less in deck area - one portable fire extinguisher located outside the entrance to the space.
- 1.1.2. Lockers greater than 10m<sup>2</sup>, but less than 20m<sup>2</sup> in deck area - two portable fire extinguishers located outside the entrance to the space.
- 1.1.3. Lockers greater than 20m<sup>2</sup> in deck area - a suitable fixed fire extinguishing system as defined below.

#### 1.2. Existing Vessels with Keel Laid After 1 February 1992 and Before 1 February 1998

- 1.2.1. Lockers of 10m<sup>2</sup> (i.e. 5m x 2m) or less in deck area - one portable fire extinguisher located outside the entrance to the space.
- 1.2.2. Lockers greater than 10m<sup>2</sup> in deck area - a suitable fixed fire extinguishing system as described below.

#### 1.3. Existing Vessels with Keel Laid After 1 February 1998 and Before 1 July 2002

- 1.3.1. Lockers of 4m<sup>2</sup> (i.e. 2m x 2m) or less in deck area - one portable fire extinguisher located outside the entrance to the space.
- 1.3.2. Lockers greater than 4m<sup>2</sup> in deck area - a suitable fixed fire extinguishing system as described below.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar  
Tuvalu Ship Registry