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Ref. T4/4.01

MSC/Circ.1036 28 May 2002

UNIFIED INTERPRETATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODE FOR APPLICATION OF FIRE TEST PROCEDURES (FTP CODE) AND FIRE TEST PROCEDURES REFERRED TO IN THE CODE

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-fifth session (15 to 24 May 2002), with a view to ensuring uniform application of the fire test provisions of the FTP Code containing vague wording which is open to diverging interpretations, approved unified interpretations prepared by the Sub-Committee on Fire Protection at its forty-sixth session, as set out in the annex.

2 Member Governments are invited to use the annexed unified interpretations as guidance, when applying relevant provisions of the FTP Code for the testing of new materials, tested on or after 24 May 2002, in order to fulfil the requirements of the 1974 SOLAS Convention, as amended, and to bring the unified interpretations to the attention of all parties concerned.

3 Member Governments are also advised to take into account earlier unified interpretations to the FTP Code and fire test procedures referred to in the Code, as given in circulars MSC/Circ.964 and MSC/Circ.1004.

ANNEX

UNIFIED INTERPRETATIONS OF THE FTP CODE AND FIRE TEST PROCEDURES REFERRED TO IN THE CODE

International Code for Application of Fire Test Procedures

5 Approval

Paragraph 5.2.4

Type approval certificates for windows should state which side of the window was exposed to the heating condition during the test.

The certificate should include a reference to optional test(s) such as the hose stream test and/or the thermal radiation test.

Resolution A.754(18), Appendix A.I - Windows

Paragraph 2.1

The test should be conducted on a window of the maximum size (in terms of both the height and the width) and the type of the glass pane and/or the minimum thickness of the glass pane or panes and gaps, if appropriate, for which approval is sought. Test results obtained on this configuration should, by analogy, allow approval of windows of the same type, with lesser dimensions in terms of the height and width and with the same or greater thickness.

Resolution A.653(16)

Paragraph 10

The sentence should be understood to mean: "Materials giving average values for all of the surface flammability criteria as listed in the following table...(etc)".