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GUIDELINES FOR CORROSION PROTECTION OF PERMANENT MEANS OF ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

1 The Committee, at its eighty-fourth session (7 to 16 May 2008), having recognized the need for guidelines for corrosion protection of permanent means of access arrangements and taking into account the Performance standard for protective coatings for dedicated seawater ballast tanks in all types of ships and double-side skin spaces of bulk carriers, adopted by resolution MSC.215(82), and the Performance standard for protective coatings for void spaces, adopted by resolution MSC.244(83), considered a proposal by the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment, at its fifty-first session, and approved the Guidelines for corrosion protection of permanent means of access arrangements, set out in the annex.

2 Member Governments are invited to apply the annexed Guidelines during construction of permanent means of access and bring them to the attention of shipowners, shipbuilders and other parties concerned.

ANNEX

GUIDELINES FOR CORROSION PROTECTION OF PERMANENT MEANS OF ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS**1 Permanent means of access in dedicated seawater ballast tanks in all types of ships and double-side skin spaces of bulk carriers****1.1 *Requirements for permanent means of access (PMAs) that are part of the structural strength elements***

Permanent means of access arrangements in ballast tanks that are integral to the ship structure shall be coated in accordance with the Performance standard for protective coatings for dedicated seawater ballast tanks of all types of ships and double-side skin spaces of bulk carriers (PSPC) (resolution MSC.215(82)).

1.2 *Guidelines for PMAs that are not part of the structural strength elements*

1.2.1 It is noted that protective coatings of means of access will be liable to suffer from mechanical damage during service. It is also noted that the ladders, rails, walkways, gratings, stanchions, etc., that form the means of access will often be fabricated from square and flat bar sections, the edges of which are an inherent weak point in any coating system, especially where abrasion or mechanical damage is a possibility.

1.2.2 Therefore, it is suggested that hot dip galvanizing should be employed as the primary means for corrosion protection for these PMAs. Hot dip galvanizing and repairs of damages should be performed in accordance with specifications at least equivalent to those acceptable to the Organization*.

1.2.3 The galvanized items should be subsequently coated to specifications at least equivalent to those acceptable to the Organization** or the coating manufacturer's recommendation. The type of paint should be selected considering its compatibility requirements with the galvanized surface in accordance with the coating manufacturer's recommendation.

1.2.4 Where protective coating is applied as the sole means of corrosion protection for these PMAs, the standard in resolution MSC.215(82) should be applied to the extent possible. In such cases, the protective coating should at least comply with the requirements of the PSPC for the job specification, coating system (epoxy-based system) and total NDFT (320 µm).

1.2.5 Consideration should be given to section 3.4.3 (In-service maintenance) of the PSPC (resolution MSC.215(82)).

* Refer to ISO 1461:1999. Hot dip galvanized coatings on fabricated iron and steel articles – Specifications and test methods.

** Refer to ISO 12944 5:2007. Paints and varnishes – Corrosion protection of steel structures by protective painting systems – Part 5: Protective painting systems.

2 Permanent means of access in void spaces

2.1 *Guidelines for PMAs that are part of the structural strength elements*

Permanent means of access arrangements in void spaces that are integral to the ship structure should be coated in accordance with the Performance standard for protective coatings for void spaces (resolution MSC.244(83)).

2.2 *Guidelines for PMAs that are not part of the structural strength elements*

2.2.1 It is suggested that hot dip galvanizing should be employed as the primary means for corrosion protection for these PMAs. The galvanized items should be subsequently coated according to the coating manufacturer's recommendation.

2.2.2 Where protective coating is applied as the sole means of corrosion protection for these items, the Performance standard for protective coatings for void spaces (resolution MSC.244(83)), should be applied to the extent possible. In such case, the protective coating should at least comply with the requirements for the coating system (epoxy-based system) and total NDFT (200 µm) of that standard.
