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MSC.1/Circ.1325
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MISSING INFORMATION ON APPARATUS GROUPS IN COLUMN i″ OF CHAPTER 17 OF THE IBC CODE

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-sixth session (27 May to 5 June 2009), noting that the provisions in paragraphs 1.2.3 and 4.1.4 of the Revised standards for the design, testing and location of devices to prevent the passage of flame into cargo tanks in tankers (MSC/Circ.677), needed clarification to ensure that the maximum experimental safe gap (MESG) value for the medium to be used to test the device is appropriate for the product certified to be carried in the tank fitted with such a device, approved the following amendments to MSC/Circ.677:

.1 Paragraph 1.2.3 is replaced with the following:

"1.2.3 These Standards are intended for devices protecting cargo tanks containing crude oil, petroleum products and flammable chemicals. In the case of the carriage of chemicals, the test media referred to in section 3 can be used for products having an MESG of 0.9 mm and greater. However, devices for chemical tankers certified for the carriage of products with an MESG* less than 0.9 mm should be tested with the following media based on the apparatus group assigned as per column i″ of the IBC Code, chapter 17:

.1 Apparatus Group II B – ethylene (MESG = 0.65 mm); and

.2 Apparatus Group II C – hydrogen (MESG = 0.28 mm)."

2 Member Governments are invited to apply the above amendments to the Revised standards, as promulgated by MSC/Circ.1324, to ships constructed on or after 1 January 2013 and to ships constructed before 1 January 2013, no later than the first scheduled dry-docking carried out on or after 1 January 2013.

3 Attention is drawn to the fact that information on apparatus groups in column i″ is missing in relation to a large number of products listed in chapter 17 of the IBC Code, as set out in annex 1. In order to allow sufficient time for the ESPH Working Group to receive and review the aforementioned missing information and to prepare corresponding amendments to the IBC Code, missing data needed to determine the electrical apparatus group should be sent to IMO, in the format specified in annex 2, no later than 31 December 2010.

4 Member Governments are invited to bring this circular to the attention of the parties concerned.

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* Reference is made to IEC – Publication 79-1.

ANNEX 1

LIST OF PRODUCTS THAT HAVE A "NO" IN COLUMN i‴ AND DO NOT HAVE AN ENTRY IN COLUMN i″ AND IS INDICATED AS BEING FLAMMABLE VAPOUR IN COLUMN "K" OF CHAPTER 17 OF THE IBC CODE

Alkanes (C6-C9)
Alkyl acrylate-vinylpyridine copolymer in toluene
Alkyl (C3-C4) benzenes
Alkyl(C8-C9) phenylamine in aromatic solvents
Ammonium sulphide solution (45% or less)
Amyl acetate (all isomers)
n-Amyl alcohol
Amyl alcohol, primary
sec-Amyl alcohol
tert-Amyl alcohol
tert-Amyl methyl ether
Aviation alkylates (C8 paraffins and iso-paraffins BPT 95-120º)
Butyl acetate (all isomers)
tert-Butyl alcohol
Butylamine (all isomers)
Butylbenzene (all isomers)
Butyl butyrate (all isomers)
n-Butyl propionate
m-Chlorotoluene
o-Chlorotoluene
p-Chlorotoluene
Chlorotoluenes (mixed isomers)
Cycloheptane
Cyclohexane
Cyclohexyl acetate
1,3-Cyclopentadiene dimer(molten)
Cyclopentane
Cyclopentene
p-Cymene
Decahydronaphthalene
Decene
Diacetone alcohol
3,4-Dichloro-1-butene
1,6-Dichlorohexane
1,1-Dichloropropane
Dichloropropene/Dichloropropane mixtures
Diethylbenzene
Diisobutylamine
Diisobutylene
Diisobutyl ketone
Dimethylamine solution(greater than 45% but not greater than 55%)
Dimethylamine solution(greater than 55% but not greater than 65%)
N,N-Dimethylcyclohexylamine
Dipentene
Di-n-propylamine
Dodecane (all isomers)
2-Ethoxyethyl acetate
Ethyl acetate
Ethylamine solutions (72% or less)
Ethyl amyl ketone
Ethylbenzene
Ethyl tert-butyl ether
Ethyl butyrate
Ethylcyclohexane
N-Ethylcyclohexylamine
Ethylene glycol monoalkyl ethers
Ethyl-3-ethoxypropionate
2-Ethylhexylamine
Ethylidene norbornene
Ethyl propionate
Ethyl toluene
Heptane (all isomers)
Heptanol (all isomers) (d)
Heptene (all isomers)
Hexamethyleneimine
Hexane (all isomers)
Hexene (all isomers)
Hexyl acetate
Isoamyl alcohol
Isobutyl alcohol
Isobutyl formate
Isopropyl acetate
Isopropylamine(70% or less) solution
Isopropylcyclohexane
Isopropyl ether
Liquid chemical wastes
Methacrylonitrile
3-Methoxy-1-butanol
Methyl acetate
Methyl alcohol
Methylamine solutions (42% or less)
Methylamyl acetate
Methylamyl alcohol
Methyl amyl ketone
Methylbutenol
Methyl tert-butyl ether
Methyl butyl ketone
Methylbutynol
Methyl butyrate
Methylcyclohexane
Methylcyclopentadiene dimer
Methyl ethyl ketone
Methyl formate
Methyl isobutyl ketone
2-Methylpyridine
3-Methylpyridine
4-Methylpyridine

Nitropropane(60%)/Nitroethane(40%) mixture
Nonane (all isomers)
Nonene (all isomers)
Octane (all isomers)
Octene (all isomers)
Olefin mixtures(C5-C7)
Olefin mixtures(C5-C15)
alpha-Olefins(C6-C18) mixtures
Paraldehyde-ammonia reaction product
1,3-Pentadiene
Pentane (all isomers)
Pentene (all isomers)
n-Pentyl propionate
alpha-Pinene
beta-Pinene
Polyalkyl (C18-C22)acrylate in Xylene
Polyolefinamine in alkyl(C2-C4)benzenes
Polyolefinamine in aromatic solvent
Polysiloxane
Propionaldehyde
n-Propyl acetate
n-Propyl alcohol
Propylbenzene (all isomers)
Propylene glycol methyl ether acetate
Propylene glycol monoalkyl ether
Propylene tetramer
Propylene trimer
Sodium hydrosulphide/Ammnonium sulphide solution
Toluene
Triethyl phosphite
Trimethylamine solution (30% or less)
Trimethylbenzene (all isomers)
1,3,5-Trioxane
Turpentine
White spirit, low (15-20%) aromatic
Xylenes

Chapter 18 Products considered as Flammable ,< 60ºC

Acetone
Alcoholic beverages, n.o.s.
n-Butyl alcohol
sec-Butyl alcohol
Ethyl alcohol
Isopropyl alcohol
Methyl propyl ketone
Tetraethyl silicate monomer/oligomer(20% in ethanol)

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ANNEX 2

INFORMATION REQUESTED TO DETERMINE THE ELECTRICAL APPARATUS GROUP

	Units	QUAL	Lower value	Upper value
Flash Point (cc) (°C)				
Boiling Point (°C)				
Melting Point/Pour Point (°C)				
AutoIgnitionTemp (°C)				
Carriage Temperature (ºC)				
Unloading Temperature (ºC)				
* MESG (mm)				

* Criteria for assigning column *'i'* Electrical Equipment – IBC Code, chapter 21.4.9.