
To: Relevant shipowners, ship management companies, shipyards and designers, product manufacturer, related departments of the Headquarters of CCS, the Society's surveyors, Plan Approval Centers

Notice on Circular of MSC.1/Circ.1626 issued by IMO

I. Preface

The Maritime Safety Committee, at its 102nd session (Nov 2020) approved the circular of MSC.1/Circ.1626 "Unified interpretation of the IMDG Code".

According to Paragraph 7.1.4.4.2 of IMDG Code, Goods of class 1 with the exception of division 1.4 shall be stowed not less than a horizontal distance of 12m from living quarters, life-saving appliances without any authorization or limitation.

II. Interpretation to paragraph 7.1.4.4.2 to address the issue of "life-saving appliances"

The term "life-saving appliances" means the ship's main survival craft and rescue boat(s) as required by SOLAS regulations III/21 or III/31.1 and is not intended to mean other life-saving appliances, such as lifebuoys, additional lifecrafts as required by SOLAS regulation III/31.3.2 and III/31.1.4 and any lifejackets and immersion suits associated with such lifecrafts."

MSC.1/Circ.1626 is provided in the annex. This technical notice is made public on CCS website (www.ccs.org.cn), and is to be distributed to relevant ship owners, product manufacturers and shipping management companies etc. by CCS branches

within their responsible areas. Please contact Technology & Information Department of CCS (ti@ccs.org.cn) for any inquiry in the implementation.

Annex: MSC.1/Circ.1626-- “Unified interpretation of the IMDG Code”

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UNIFIED INTERPRETATION OF THE IMDG CODE

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its 102nd session (4 to 11 November 2020), with a view to providing more specific guidance for the application of the relevant requirements of the *International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code* (IMDG Code), approved the following unified interpretation of the IMDG Code prepared by the Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers, at its sixth session:

"Life-saving appliances (paragraph 7.1.4.4.2)

The term "life-saving appliances" means the ship's main survival craft and rescue boat(s) as required by SOLAS regulations III/21 or III/31.1 and is not intended to mean other life-saving appliances, such as lifebuoys, additional liferafts as required by SOLAS regulation III/31.3.2 and III/31.1.4 and any lifejackets and immersion suits associated with such liferafts."

2 Member States are invited to use the above unified interpretation as guidance when applying the relevant provisions of the IMDG Code and to bring the unified interpretation to the attention of all parties concerned.