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### **UNIFIED INTERPRETATIONS OF SOLAS CHAPTER II-2**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its 109th session (2 to 6 December 2024), approved, in order to provide specific guidance on the consistent application of SOLAS regulation II-2/11.4.1 on the crown of a machinery space of category A, as well as SOLAS regulations II-2/4.5.3.2.2 and 11.6.3.2 on the secondary means of venting cargo tanks, the unified interpretations (UIs) of SOLAS chapter II-2, prepared by the Sub-Committee on Ship Systems and Equipment, at its tenth session (4 to 8 March 2024), as set out in the annex.

2 Member States are invited to use the annexed UIs as guidance when applying SOLAS regulations II-2/11.4.1, 4.5.3.2.2 and 11.6.3.2, respectively, and to bring them to the attention of all parties concerned.

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## ANNEX

### UNIFIED INTERPRETATIONS OF SOLAS CHAPTER II-2

#### **SOLAS regulation II-2/11.4.1 – Machinery spaces of category A, crowns and casings**

1 The crown of a machinery space of category A should be understood to mean the underside of the deck and the uppermost horizontal part of the main space of the machinery space. If the upper side bulkheads are sloping, the sloping parts of the bulkheads should be included in the crown.

#### **SOLAS regulations II-2/4.5.3.2.2 and 11.6.3.2 – Cargo areas of tankers; Protection of cargo tank structure against pressure or vacuum in tankers**

2 For ships that apply pressure sensors in each tank as an alternative to having the secondary means of venting as per SOLAS regulation II-2/11.6.3.2, the setting of the over-pressure alarm should be above the pressure setting of the P/V valve and the setting of the under-pressure alarm should be below the vacuum setting of the P/V valve. The alarm settings should be within the design pressures of the cargo tanks. The settings should be fixed and should not be arranged for blocking or adjustment in operation.

3 An exception should be permitted for ships that carry different types of cargo and use P/V valves with different settings, one setting for each type of cargo. The settings may be adjusted to account for the different types of cargo.

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