

MSC/Circ.1167

1 June 2005

FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF EVACUATION GUIDANCE SYSTEMS

- 1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-fifth session (15 to 24 May 2002) recognized the need for the development of guidelines on the assessment of evacuation guidance systems.
- 2 The Committee, at its eightieth session (11 to 20 May 2005), having considered a proposal by the forty-ninth session of the Sub-Committee on Fire Protection, approved the Guidelines on the assessment of evacuation guidance systems, set out in the annex.
- 3 Member Governments are invited to bring the annexed Guidelines to the attention of ship designers, shipowners, ship operators, shipbuilders and other parties involved in the design, construction, testing, approval and maintenance of evacuation guidance systems.

ANNEX

FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF EVACUATION GUIDANCE SYSTEMS

1 Purpose

The purpose of this guidance is to provide functional requirements and performance standards applicable to all evacuation guidance systems.

2 Functional requirements

- 2.1 The systems should readily identify the routes of escape when the normal emergency lighting is less effective due to smoke.
- 2.2 The systems should be such that, in case one exit may not be used, persons are still able to easily find their way towards another exit.
- 2.3 Systems relying on external power sources, including those that are automatically activated or continuously operating, should be capable of being manually activated by a single action from a continuously manned central control station.
- 2.4 Electrically powered systems should be connected to the emergency switchboard required by regulation II-1/42 of the 1974 SOLAS Convention, as amended, so as to be powered by the main source of electrical power under normal circumstances and also by the emergency source of electrical power when the latter is in operation.
- 2.5 All electrically powered systems should be arranged so that the failure of any single device, or battery will not result in the system being ineffective.
- 2.6 The systems should not prevent effective communication between the fire-fighting parties and the continuously manned control station.
- 2.7 The performances of the systems should not be impeded by the simultaneous functioning of any other systems, expected to be used in normal or under emergency conditions (e.g. public address systems, emergency lighting systems, etc.).

3 Performance standards

- 3.1 Electrically powered systems should meet the requirements for vibration and electromagnetic interference in accordance with IEC 60945.
 - 3.2 Electrically powered systems should provide a minimum degree of ingress protection of at least IP 55 in accordance with IEC 60520.
 - 3.3 The systems should be tested, approved and maintained in accordance with guidelines acceptable to the Administration.
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