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Ref. T3/1.01

MSC/Circ.1148
15 December 2004

CARRIAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Issuing and renewal of document of compliance with the special requirements applicable to ships carrying dangerous goods

1 At its seventy-fifth session (15 to 24 May 2002), the Maritime Safety Committee considered and approved a standard format for the document of compliance required by regulation II-2/19.4 of the 1974 SOLAS Convention, as amended, applicable as from 1 July 2002. This format is reproduced in circular MSC/Circ.1027.

2 Recognizing the need to take into account the amendments to table 19.3 of SOLAS regulation II-2/19 which the Committee had adopted by resolution MSC.134(76), the Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-ninth session (1 to 10 December 2004), decided that it was necessary to highlight the prohibition on stowage of class 5.2 dangerous goods under deck or in enclosed ro-ro spaces in documents of compliance required by regulation II-2/19 of the SOLAS Convention, as amended, for any ship built on or after 1 July 2004 when issuing or renewing the said documents.

3 Recognizing also that this prohibition on stowage under the IMDG Code is also applicable to all ships built before 1 July 2004 and subject to regulation II-2/19 (or II-2/54) of the SOLAS Convention, as amended, the Committee also decided that the prohibition on stowage would have to be taken into account when renewing documents of compliance for:

- .1 any passenger ship built on or after 1 September 1984 and before 1 July 2004;
- .2 any cargo ship of 500 gross tonnage and above built on or after 1 September 1984 and before 1 July 2004; and
- .3 any cargo ship of less than 500 gross tonnage built on or after 1 February 1992 and before 1 July 2004.

4 In addition, at the same session, the Committee recalled that the standard document of compliance format set out in circular MSC/Circ.1027 should be used when renewing documents of ships subject to SOLAS regulation II-2/54 applicable before 1 July 2002, and that in such cases the references to regulations II-2/19 and II-2/19.4 appearing in the standard format should be replaced by references to regulations II-2/54 and II-2/54.3, respectively.

5 Member Governments are invited to draw this circular to the attention of authorities responsible for issuing and renewing documents of compliance, bodies acting on behalf of these governments, and shipowners, ship operators and masters, with a view to harmonizing the practices of the various administrations.

6 Member Governments are also invited to draw this circular to the attention of authorities tasked by the port State with carrying out inspections of ships, and to recommend them to take the above into account when discharging their responsibilities.
