



MARITIME SAFETY STANDARD FOR FIRE PREVENTION, DETECTION, AND FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT REQUIRED ABOARD FLOATING EQUIPMENT

1.0 PURPOSE

Establish the minimum equipment for the prevention, detection and extinction of fires, required aboard floating equipment.

2.0 BACKGROUND

This document supports the following:

- The Panama Canal Administrator's Directive AD-2004-04, dated May 14, 2004

3.0 SCOPE

These requirements apply to floating equipment and smaller vessels owned or operated by the Panama Canal Authority (ACP), or owned by third parties operating in Canal waters.

4.0 AUTHORITY

These requirements are based on Resolution No. 12 of the Board of Directors of the Panama Canal Authority, Safety and Occupational Health Regulations, Chapter III, Article 22, item 1; and Chapter IV, Article 26.

5.0 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Standard, the following definitions shall apply:

5.1 Vessel: Every type of floating equipment with or without propulsion, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

5.2 Shipowner: A person or legally constituted corporation lawfully recognized as owner or operator of floating equipment.

5.3 Canal Waters: Those within the geographic area that follows the course of the Panama Canal from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean, including anchorage areas, the port of Cristobal and the Port of Balboa, shores and areas where only activities compatible with the operation of the Canal may be carried out.

5.4 Length: In general terms, the length of a vessel along the centerline.

5.5 Centerline: The middle line of the ship from bow to stern. The keel is on the centerline.

5.6 USCG: United States Coast Guard.

5.7 Boat: Small craft propelled by machinery, not over 20 meters (65 feet) in length.

5.8 Beam: A transverse structural member from port to starboard, joining the opposing frames and supporting the decks.

5.9 Approved: For the purposes of this Standard, it means approved by USCG.

5.10 GRT: Gross registered tons.



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5.11 Semi portable extinguisher: An extinguisher designed to be carried and operated on wheels, without mobility of its own, weighing over 20kg (44.08lbs).

5.12 Portable extinguisher: An extinguisher designed to be carried or operated manually weighing up to 20kg (44.08lbs).

5.13 Low risk: Having low flammability, not capable of making fire spread on its own.

5.14 Moderate risk or ordinary risk: Capable of burning with moderate speed or generating a considerable volume of smoke, making immediate evacuation difficult.

5.15 High risk: Capable of burning very fast and with a high probability of explosion.

5.16 ANSI/UL: American National Standards Institute / Underwriters Laboratories.

5.17 USCG BI Classification: Equals an ANSI/UL rating of 5B:C(CO₂); 1A:10B:C (ABC dry chemical powder).

5.18 USCG BII Classification: Equals an ANSI/UL rating of 4A:60B:C (ABC dry chemical powder); 10B:C

5.19 ABC Extinguisher: extinguisher used for combustibles classed A, B, C, which are suitable for use on paper, wood, textiles, inflammable fuel, butane, propane, gasoline, paint and electrical equipment.

5.20 BC Extinguisher: extinguisher used for combustibles classed B, C which are suitable for use on inflammable fuel, butane, propane, gasoline, naphtha, paint and electrical equipment.

5.21 CO₂: extinguisher which contains carbon dioxide.

6.0 GENERAL

6.1 Boats less than 7 meters long that are not cayucos or dugout canoes, and up to 20 meters long, equipped with outboard motors and operating in Gatun Lake, shall carry on board:

6.1.1 A 9.5 liter (2.5 gallon) bailer or a portable pump.

6.1.2 Two (2) portable fire extinguishers approved for marine use: one (1) shall be USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂ or one (1) USCG CI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound BC dry chemical powder located outside the engine room; one (1) shall be USCG CI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the wheelhouse, when the engine is located in the hull.

6.1.3 One (1) portable fire extinguisher approved for marine use: one with 5 pounds of dry chemical powder ABC in the wheelhouse when equipped with outboard motors.

6.2 Cayucos or dugout canoes less than 20 meters long, equipped with outboard motors and operating in Gatun Lake, shall carry on board:

6.2.1 Two 9.5 liter (2.5 gallon) bailers or a portable pump.



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6.3 Boats 7 meters or over and up to 12 meters long shall carry the following firefighting equipment:

6.3.1. Three (3) portable fire extinguishers approved for marine use: one (1) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 15-pound CO₂ or one (1) USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound BC dry chemical powder located outside the engine room; one (1) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 15-pound CO₂ or one (1) USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size) 10-pound BC dry chemical powder located outside the steering compartment or lazarette; one (1) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder for the passenger cabins and wheelhouse.

6.3.2 One 9.5 liter (2.5 gallon) bailer or a portable pump.

6.4 Boats 12 meters or over and up to 20 meters long shall carry the following firefighting equipment:

6.4.1 Four (4) portable fire extinguishers approved for marine use: one (1) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size) 15-pound CO₂ or one (1) USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound BC dry chemical powder located outside the engine room; one (1) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 15-pound CO₂ or one (1) USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound BC dry chemical powder located outside the steering compartment or lazarette; one (1) shall be USCG CI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂ in the wheelhouse; one (1) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder for the passenger cabins.

6.4.2. One 9.5 liter (2.5 gallon) bailer or an electrical or manual bilge pump.

6.4.3. A fixed fire extinguishing system for total gas flooding of engine compartment

6.5 Vessels 12 meters or over and up to 20 meters in length, propelled by machinery, and up to 150 GRT, with engines less than 1500KW (2000HP) shall be equipped with one of the following options:

6.5.1. Nine (9) portable fire extinguishers approved for marine use: two (2) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size) 15-pound carbon dioxide (CO₂) or two (2) USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound BC dry chemical powder located in the engine room; one (1) shall be USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂ and one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the wheelhouse; one (1) shall be USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂, and one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the engineer's office; two (2) fire extinguishers in the galley: one (1) shall be USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂ exclusively for the stove, and one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the mess room; one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the storeroom. In case of vessels with crew quarters, one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder will be added.

6.5.2. A fixed fire extinguishing system for total gas flooding of the engine room; or

6.6 Vessels 20 meters or over and up to 50 meters in length with 150 GRT or over and up to 300 GRT, propelled by machinery, with engines of 1500KW (2000HP) or over and up to 2250KW (3000HP), shall be equipped with one of the following options:

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6.6.1 Thirteen (13) portable fire extinguishers approved for marine use: four (4) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 15-pound CO₂ or four (4) USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound BC dry chemical powder located in the engine room; one (1) shall be USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂, and one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size) 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the wheelhouse; one (1) USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂, and one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the engineer's office; two (2) extinguishers in the galley, one (1) shall be USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂ exclusively for the stove and one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the mess room; one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the storeroom; one (1) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 15-pound CO₂ for the paint locker; one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder for the crew quarters. In the case of vessels with a captain's office, one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder will be added.

6.7 Vessels 20 meters or over and up to 50 meters in length with 300 GRT or over, propelled by machinery, with engines of 2250KW (3000HP) or over and up to 3000KW (4000HP) shall be equipped with one of the following options:

6.7.1 Fourteen (14) portable fire extinguishers approved for marine use: five (5) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 15-pound CO₂ or five (5) USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound BC dry chemical powder located in the engine compartment; one (1) USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂, and one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder shall be located in the wheelhouse; one (1) shall be USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂, and one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size) 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the engineer's office; two (2) extinguishers in the galley, one (1) shall be USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂ exclusively for the stove, and one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound ABC dry chemical powder will be located in the mess room; one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder will be located in the storeroom; one (1) USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 15-pound CO₂ will be located in the paint locker; and one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder for crew quarters. In the case of vessels with a captain's office, one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder will be added.

6.7.2 A fixed fire extinguishing system for total gas flooding of the engine compartment.

6.8 Vessels 50 meters or over with 300 GRT or over, propelled by machinery, with engines of 3000KW (4000HP) or over shall be equipped with one of the following options:

6.8.1. Fifteen (15) portable fire extinguishers for approved marine use: five (5) shall be CLASSIFICATION BII USCG (type/size), 15-pound CO₂ or five (5) USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound BC dry chemical powder located in the engine room; one (1) USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂ and one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the wheelhouse; one (1) shall be USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂, and one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder located in the engineer's office; two (2) extinguishers in the galley where one (1) shall be USCG BI CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound CO₂ exclusively for the stove, and one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 5-pound ABC dry chemical powder



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shall be located in the dining room; one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder in the storeroom; one (1) shall be USCG BII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 15-pound CO₂ will be located in the paint locker; and one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder for crew quarters; one (1) shall be USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder in the captain's office. In the case of vessels with more than one storeroom, one (1) USCG CII CLASSIFICATION (type/size), 10-pound ABC dry chemical powder will be added.

6.8.2 A fixed fire extinguishing system for total gas flooding of the engine compartment.

6.9 Every non self-propelled vessel shall be equipped with the number of extinguishers specified in Annex 1, as well as a fixed fire extinguishing system for total gas flooding of the engine compartment.

6.10 Portable extinguishers of up to 40 pounds gross weight shall be installed so that the top of the extinguisher is not more than 5 feet from the floor. The bottom of the extinguisher shall not be less than four inches above the floor.

6.11 Portable extinguishers with a gross weight of over 40 pounds shall be installed so the top of the extinguisher is not more than 3.5 feet above the floor. The bottom of the extinguisher shall not be less than four inches above the floor.

6.12 Fixed fire extinguishing systems for total gas flooding of the engine compartments should comply with the following criteria:

6.12.1 Fixed fire extinguishing system controls shall be fitted with valves for simple activation in easily accessible locations and grouped in the least possible number of sites. They may not be located in such spaces as might be cut off or made inaccessible in the event of fire in any of the spaces protected. Clear instructions for the operation of the system shall be posted at each location where the safety of crew members may be preserved.

6.12.2 An automatic acoustic and visual signals shall be provided to indicate when the extinguishing system is discharging. The alarm shall sound for a sufficient time prior to the discharge.

6.12.3 System shall be activated automatic discharge upon heat detector, manual pull cable assembly or combination of both with the exception of the CO₂ system that should be manual only.

6.12.4 Fixed fire extinguishing systems for total gas flooding of the engine compartments is required for vessel of 12 meters or more in length and containing an internal combustion engine of more than 37.3 kW (50 hp)

6.12.4.1 A space containing machinery powered by gasoline or other fuels having a flash point of 43.3° C (110° F) or lower.

6.12.4.2 A space containing a fuel tank for gasoline or any other fuel having a flash point of 43.3° C (110° F) or lower.

6.12.4.3 A paint locker or storeroom containing flammable liquids.

6.12.5 The following information should be considered for the new CO₂ fixed systems:



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6.12.5.1 The cylinders must be new and non-reusable, and shall have the approval of the NFPA-12, USCG-NVIC 6-72, DOT title 46 Standards.

6.12.5.2 They shall have the corresponding nozzles and the number provided by the design.

6.12.5.3 The detection system shall have at least a thermal sensor of 163° C (325° F).

6.12.5.4 In the cases in which the CO₂ cylinders are located inside, in spaces to which the crewmembers have access to or have the possibility of having access to through crew quarters, an O₂ sensor shall be provided and will sound an alarm in case the oxygen level is below 19.5% of O₂.

6.12.5.5 The audible alarm must at least ring for 20 seconds before activating. The alarm may be activated pneumatically or electrically.

6.12.5.6 Unless otherwise indicated, two manual pull cables independent controls shall be installed, one in the CO₂ room storage area and the other one in a place outside the protected area.

6.12.6 The necessary conditions will be provided to ensure that the temperature of the area where the cylinders will be located will not exceed 51° C (125° F) and the relative humidity will be approximately 75%.

6.12.7 The system shall be capable to stop automatically all ventilation, fuel pumps and machinery that absorb air of any of the spaces protected and re-armed device of the shut downs systems.

6.12.8 The system shall discharged 95% of concentrate in 10 seconds or less.

6.12.9 The foam systems of the floating equipment shall be inspected every two years to verify the properties. This will be done by the Specialized Security Systems and Fire Safety Unit of the Protection and Emergency Response Division.

6.12.10 Before performing any installation, modification or repair to the system, the Maritime Safety Unit and the Specialized Security Systems and Fire Safety Unit of the Protection and Emergency Response Division shall be notified for the corresponding approval.

6.13 Vessels propelled by machinery, as well as manned non self-propelled vessels, shall be fitted with pumps, nozzles, and fire hoses as specified in the following table:

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NUMBER OF PUMPS, HOSES AND HYDRANT SIZE, NOZZLE ORIFICE SIZE, AND HOSE LENGTH

GROSS REGISTERED TONS		MINIMUM NUMBER OF PUMPS	HOSES AND HYDRANT SIZE (INCHES)	NOZZLE ORIFICE SIZE (INCHES)	LENGTH OF HOSE (FEET)
UP TO OR OVER	LESS THAN				
-	50	1	$\frac{5}{8}$	-	50
50	100	1	1½	½	50
100	1,000	1	1½	5/8	50
1,000	1,500	2	1½	5/8	50
1,500	-	2	2½	7/8	50

6.13.1 Sanitary, ballast, bilge, and general service pumps may be considered firefighting pumps as long as they are not normally used to pump fuel. If used occasionally to transfer or discharge fuel, they must be equipped with the proper fittings.

6.13.2 Pump capacity shall be according to the following table:

Vessel Length	Pump Capacity
Less than 20 meters (65 feet)	5.50 m ³ /hr (25 gpm)
20 meters (65 feet) or more but less than 30.5 meters (100 feet)	11.0 m ³ /hr (50 gpm)
30.5 meters (100 feet) or more but less than 61 meters (200 feet)	14.3 m ³ /hr (66.6 gpm)
61 meters (200 feet) and over	25 m ³ /hr (110 gpm)

6.14 Vessels propelled by machinery, as well as manned and non self-propelled vessels, shall be fitted with fixed extinguishers adjusted to the flooding factors according to the estimated volume. This volume shall be divided or multiplied by the constant volume factor and the result shall be the number of pounds of CO₂ that are necessary, but in no case shall it be less than the quantity calculated in the last column as is shown on the following table:

FLOODING FACTORS

VOLUME OF SPACE (ft ³)		VOLUME FACTOR		CALCULATED QUANTITY OF CO ₂ (NOT LESS THAN __ LBS)
UP TO OR OVER	LESS THAN	CO ₂ (ft ³ /lb) (volume is divided by)	CO ₂ (lb/ ft ³) (volume is multiplied by)	
-	140	14	.072	-
141	500	15	.067	10
501	1600	16	.063	35
1601	4500	18	.056	100
4501	50,000	20	.050	250
50,001	-	22	.046	2500



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6.15 Every vessel propelled by machinery, as well as manned non self-propelled vessels, shall carry the following number of axes on board:

GROSS REGISTERED TONS		NUMBER OF AXES
UP TO OR OVER	LESS THAN	
45	100	1
100	200	2
200	500	4
500	1,000	6
1,000	-	8

6.16 Fire detection systems:

6.16.1 It is recommended that fire detectors be selected and installed according to the degree of hazard of the goods, raw materials, products or by-products carried or handled on board; the processes, operations, and activities performed; and the structural features and radius of the detectors.

6.16.2 Smoke and heat detectors must be located where they will perform efficiently. They should not be installed next to beams or vents or other places where the air circulation reduces their efficiency, or where they are exposed to shock or damage. Detectors located in elevated positions shall be located at a minimum distance of .5 meters (1' 8") from bulkheads, except in passageways, lockers, or stairs.

6.17 Firefighting equipment required aboard vessels:

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EQUIPMENT, TOOLS AND ACCESSORIES	MINIMUM QUANTITY
HOSE CLAMP	1
PIKE POLE, 8 FEET	1
HYDRANT WRENCH	1
UNIVERSAL WRENCH	4
CONNECTOR, DOUBLE, FEMALE, 2½	1
CONNECTOR, DOUBLE, MALE, 2½	1
Y-CONNECTOR WITH VALVES, 2½" TO TWO 1½"	1
REDUCTION CONNECTOR, 2½ FEMALE TO 1½ MALE	1
INTERNATIONAL ADAPTER	1
UNIVERSAL ADAPTER 2½	1
HOSE, 2½ DOUBLE JACKET REINFORCED, 50'	8 lengths, 50' each
HOSE, 1½, DOUBLE JACKET REINFORCED, 50'	4 lengths, 50' each
NOZZLE, ½", NAP	2
NOZZLE, 2½", NAP	1
NOZZLE, APPLICATOR TYPE 90° 1½ X 10"	1
NOZZLE, APPLICATOR TYPE 90° 2½ X 10"	1
NOZZLE, BAYONET TYPE 1½ x 3'	1
NOZZLE, ADJUSTABLE TYPE, FOR 1.125" to 1.25" TIPS	1
EDUCTOR FOR FOAM LINE, 120 GPM	1
NOZZLE, ADJUSTABLE (FOG AND JET STREAM PATTERN) 1,000 GPM FOR MONITORS ON TUGBOATS WITHOUT NOZZLES	1
SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCBA)	2
ADDITIONAL CYLINDERS OF THE SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS	2

6.18 Vessels propelled by machinery, as well as manned and non self-propelled vessels, more than 20 meters (65 feet) in length or more than 100 GRT shall be fitted with a damage control box, this control box shall be fitted with the following items:

Qty.	ITEMS DESCRIPTION
2	KEYS
2	LATCHES
1	WOOD MALLET
1	TIN SNIPS
1	SCISSORS
1	PHILLYSEAL KIT
1	6" GREEN TRAPE
1	MACHETE W/CASE
1	CROW BAR
1	ROLL OF TWINW
2	5" HOSE CLAMP
2	2 1/4" HOSE CLAMP



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Qty.	ITEMS DESCRIPTION
2	1 3/4" HOSE CLAMP
2	SPEEDALLOY KIT W/DIRECTIONS AND MSDS.
	WOODEN, PLUG, WEDGES
	50 FT. WIRE BAILING
	300 SQ. FT. OF CANVAS
	1/8" x 3' x 4'
	ENGLISH AND SPANISH INVENTORY LIST
	LABEL EACH BOX

7.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 Shipowners or operators shall:

7.1.1 Ensure their vessel's compliance with the minimum firefighting equipment requirements.

7.1.2 Maintain firefighting equipment in its proper location and in good operating condition.

7.1.3 Coordinate the necessary training on the proper handling of the equipment required by this Standard.

7.2 The Maritime Safety Unit (OPXI-S) shall:

7.2.1 Coordinate with OPP to establish the minimum requirements for the firefighting equipment that must be carried aboard ACP floating equipment.

7.2.2 Respond to inquiries or requests for exceptions to this Standard, in coordination with OPP, according to 6.12.5, 8.0 and 9.0.

7.2.3 Provide the necessary recommendations on the basis of minimum requirements not included in this Standard.

7.3 Floating equipment inspectors of the Maritime Safety Unit shall:

7.3.1 Monitor compliance with this Standard.

7.4 The Firefighting Section (OPPB) shall:

7.4.1 Perform testing and inspections on firefighting equipment.

7.4.2 Provide training on the proper handling of the equipment required by this Standard.

7.4.3 Respond to inquiries or requests for exceptions to this Standard, in coordination with OPXI-S, according to 6.12, 8.0 and 9.0.

7.4.4 Provide the necessary recommendations on the basis of minimum requirements not covered by this Standard.



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8.0 INQUIRIES

Any information or clarification of the content or application of this Standard must be requested in writing to the Maritime Safety Unit.

9.0 EXCEPTIONS

Any requests for changes or temporary exceptions to this Standard must be made in writing to the Maritime Safety Unit.

10.0 TERM

This Standard shall remain in effect until amended or revised.

11.0 REFERENCES

- 11.1 Law Decree No.61 dated October 23, 1979, whereby articles 8 and 9 of Law 54 of December 11, 1926, of the Panama Maritime Authority are regulated.
- 11.2 International Agreement for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS 74).
- 11.3 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
- 11.4 United States Coast Guard (USCG)
- 11.5 Department of Transportation (DOT)