

South African Maritime Safety Authority



Marine Notice No. 6 of 2008

Unified interpretation of SOLAS Chapter II-2

TO SHIPBUILDERS, VESSEL OWNERS OF SHIPS TO WHICH THE SOLAS CONVENTION APPLIES, AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

Summary

This marine notice advises the industry of the International Maritime Organisation's Marine Safety Committee Circular 1239, which gives specific guidance for the interpretation of Regulations II-2/3.6 and II-2/4.5.11, Protection of Fuel Oil.

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty third session, approved the uniform interpretations of SOLAS chapter II-2 as set out in the attached annex.

2 The attached annex will be used by SAMSA surveyors when considering the relevant provisions of chapter II to fire protection, construction, installation, arrangements and equipment to be installed on board ships constructed on or after 5 October 2007.

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SM6/5/2/1

Issued by and obtainable from:
The South African Maritime Safety Authority
161 Lynnwood Road
Brooklyn, Pretoria

PO Box 13186
Hatfield 0028

Tel: +27 12 366 2600

Fax: +27 12 366 2601

E-mail: marinenotices@samsa.org.za

Web Site : www.samsa.org.za

ANNEX

UNIFIED INTERPRETATIONS OF SOLAS CHAPTER II-2

Regulations II-2/3.6 and II-2/4.5.1.1 – Protection of fuel oil

1 A void space or ballast water tank protecting a fuel oil tank, in accordance with MARPOL, as shown in figure 1, need not be considered as a “cargo area” as defined in SOLAS regulation II-2/3.6 even though they have a cruciform contact with the cargo oil tank or slop tank.*

2 The void space protecting a fuel oil tank, in accordance with MARPOL, is not considered as a cofferdam as specified in SOLAS regulation II-2/4.5.1.1. Therefore, location of the void space shown in figure 1 should be considered acceptable even though they have a cruciform contact with the slop tank.

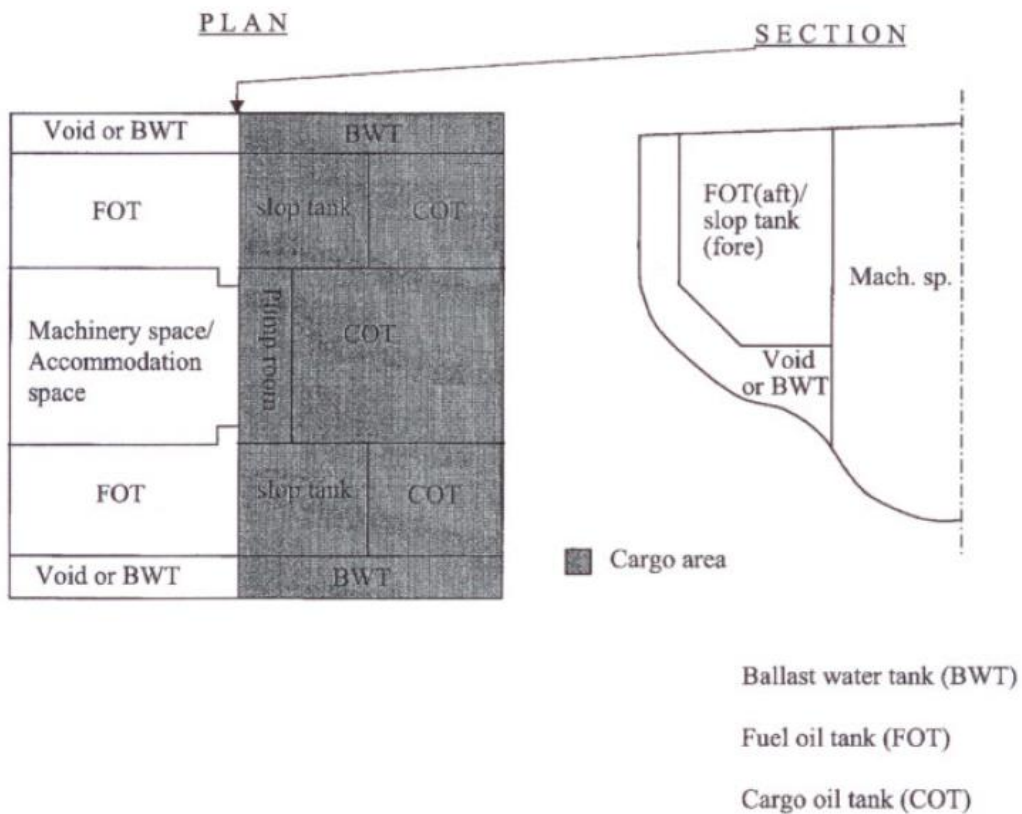


Figure 1

* As defined by MARPOL 73/78.