



Office of
Deputy Commissioner
of Maritime Affairs

THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
LIBERIA MARITIME AUTHORITY

Marine Notice

TEC-005
Rev. 06/12

TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS, AND AUTHORIZED CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES

SUBJECT: International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code) and Medical Oxygen Carriage Requirements

Reference: (a) SOLAS 74 Chapter VII, as amended
(b) MARPOL, Annex III, as amended
(c) IMDG Code, as amended

Supersedes: Marine Notice TEC-005, dated 6/01

PURPOSE:

This Notice provides the Liberian Administration's policy for compliance with the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG) requirements, including the policy on the carriage of medical oxygen cylinders.

APPLICABILITY:

This Notice applies to all vessels carrying dangerous good as defined in regulation 1 of Chapter VII of SOLAS 74, as amended, and to all ships, irrespective of type and size, carrying substances, material or articles identified in the IMDG Code as marine pollutants.

REQUIREMENTS:

1.0 General Regulations

The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974 (SOLAS 74) Chapter VII prescribes the general regulations for the carriage of dangerous goods in packaged form or in solid form in bulk. Reference (b) applies to all ships carrying harmful substances identified as marine pollutants in packaged form by the IMDG Code. All dangerous goods and marine pollutants carried on Liberian flagged ships shall be carried and shipped in accordance with the IMDG Code, as amended.

2.0 Compliance

2.1 All Liberian ships carrying dangerous goods in package form or in solid bulk form or substances identified as a marine pollutant must have on board the latest copy of the IMDG

Code (Volume 1 and Volume 2), as amended.

- 2.2 IMO as published a separate Supplement to the IMDG Code containing Emergency Response Procedures, Medical First Aid Guide (MFAG), Reporting Procedures, Guidelines for Packing Cargo Transport Units, Recommendations for the Safe Use of Pesticides, and the INF Code. All Liberian ships must have on board the Supplement to the IMDG Code.

3.0 Medical Oxygen

The cargo details found in Volume One of the IMDG Code lists the medical hazards for each specific cargo listed in the Code. For certain cargoes the IMDG Code requires the carriage of oxygen resuscitation equipment as specified in the MFAG. In general, nearly all of the cargoes listed in the IMDG Code required medical oxygen.

- 3.1 The MFAG requires the carriage of a minimum of 44 liters/ 200 bar of oxygen as follows:
1. one (1) 40 liter/200 bar medical oxygen cylinder located in the ship's hospital, assembled for direct use, equipped with one (1) flowmeter unit (two ports) for supplying oxygen for two (2) persons simultaneously, and
 2. one (1) complete portable set, ready for use, with a 2 liter/200 bar medical oxygen cylinder and a spare cylinder (also 2 liter/200 bar).
 3. Two 20 liter/200 bar medical oxygen cylinders may be used to comply with the 40 liter/200 bar requirement, if the system is arranged so as to be able to supply oxygen to two persons simultaneously.
- 3.2 The medical oxygen can be located either inside or outside of the hospital. If located inside the space you must insure the space is properly ventilated in case of escape of the oxygen from the cylinder and that the cylinders are located so that they cannot be easily damaged or disturbed. If located outside of the compartment the cylinders must be in a protected location and not exposed to excessive heat, flames, or a corrosive atmosphere and located so that they cannot be easily damaged or disturbed. Location of the medical oxygen must be acceptable to the vessel's classification society.
- 3.3 The Medical oxygen cylinders and resuscitation equipment should be inspected and serviced annually, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Servicing should be carried out by trained competent personnel and acceptable to the vessel's classification society.
- 3.4 The contents of the cylinders are to be checked and changed as required according to manufacturer's requirements or every three years whichever occurs sooner.
- 3.5 The cylinders should be hydrostatically tested every five (5) years unless a different interval is specified by the manufacturer.

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