

MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE SHIPPING CIRCULAR NO. 02 of 2025

MPA Shipping Division 460 Alexandra Road 21st Storey mTower Singapore 119963 http://www.mpa.gov.sg

17 March 2025

Applicable to: Shipowners, ship managers, operators, agents and masters of Singapore-registered ships

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 109th SESSION OF THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE (MSC 109) OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO)

1. This circular informs the shipping community of the resolutions adopted by MSC 109¹ and urges the shipping community to prepare for the implementation of these resolutions.

- 2. **MSC 109** adopted the following mandatory resolutions:
 - a. <u>Resolution MSC.566(109)</u> Amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (IGC Code)

This resolution adopts amendments to Chapter 16 of the IGC Code, mainly to allow the use of ammonia cargo as fuel. The amendments will enter into force on **01 July 2026** and will be given effect through the Merchant Shipping (Safety Convention) Regulations.

b. <u>Resolution MSC.567(109)</u> – Amendments to the International Code of Safety for Ships using Gases or other Low-flashpoint Fuels (IGF Code)

This resolution adopts amendments to IGF Code regarding ship design and arrangements; general pipe design; safety functions of the gas supply system; fire protection; hazardous area zones; and ventilation requirements. The amendments will enter into force on **01 January 2028** and will be given effect through the Merchant Shipping (Safety Convention) Regulations.

¹ MSC 109 was held from 02 December 2024 to 06 December 2024.

- 3. **MSC 109** also adopted the following resolutions:
 - a. <u>Resolution MSC.568(109)</u> Amendments to the Revised recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances (resolution MSC.81(70))

This resolution adopts amendments to Part 1- Prototype Test for Life-saving Appliances, for self-righting test requirements of totally enclosed lifeboats, under paragraph 6.14.1.1 of the Revised recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances (resolution MSC.81(70)).

b. <u>Resolution MSC.569(109)</u> – Performance standards for the reception of maritime safety information and search and rescue related information by MF and HF digital navigational data (NAVDAT) system

This resolution adopts the Performance standards for the reception of maritime safety information and search and rescue related information by *MF* and *HF* digital NAVDAT system.

c. <u>Resolution MSC.509(105)/REV.1</u> – Provision of radio services for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)

This resolution adopts the revised Recommendation on provision of radio services for the GMDSS, the Criteria for use when providing shore-based digital selective calling (DSC) facilities for use in the GMDSS, the Criteria for establishing GMDSS sea areas, the Criteria for use when providing a NAVTEX service and the Criteria for use when providing a NAVDAT service, set out in annexes 1 to 5, respectively, to the resolution. This resolution revokes resolution MSC.509(105).

d. <u>Resolution MSC.570(109)</u> – *Performance standards for a universal shipborne Automatic Identification System (AIS)*

This resolution adopts the revised Performance standards for a universal shipborne AIS, recognising the need for measures to prevent unauthorized entry or tampering of the ship's identity information in shipborne AIS.

4. Any queries relating to this circular should be directed to MPA Shipping Division via email at shipping@mpa.gov.sg.

5. Do subscribe to our Telegram channel – t.me/MPASingapore to receive the latest updates.



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CHEAH AUN AUN DIRECTOR OF MARINE MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE