



Instruction to RO

Nr 19 Medical Oxygen Supply System on board ships carrying Dangerous Goods

Date entry into force: 01 September 2017

1 General

The purpose of this circular is to provide the Classification Societies with necessary information to carry out surveys on behalf of the MAC with respect to medical oxygen supply system on board ships carrying dangerous goods as defined in the IMDG-Code and conform the Regulation Seagoing Vessels.

All Curaçao ships carrying dangerous goods as defined in the IMDG-Code shall be provided with medical supplies in accordance with the regulations. This means that vessels concerned, shall be equipped with a 40-litre 200 bar cylinder with medical oxygen for breathing applications.

The Oxygen Supply system shall meet the requirements as set out in the Policy Rule Safety Seagoing Vessels paragraphs 5.1 to 5.3 as far as practicable and reasonable.

2 The placement of the 40 litre 200 bar medical oxygen cylinder

Preferably the 40-litre oxygen cylinder should be stored outside the accommodation or in a confined space and should be connected in such way that the resuscitator equipment in the hospital or room containing the sick bay can draw oxygen from it. The fixed oxygen lines and installation parts should be made in accordance with relevant rules of the classification societies.

It is acceptable to place the 40 litre 200 bar medical oxygen cylinder inside the superstructure in the ships hospital beside the bed(s) if the following provisions are complied with.

1. The cylinder should be securely locked in a frame connected directly to the steel structure of the ship. The locking system should be of a quick release type;
2. It should be equipped with a safety valve and a possible overpressure should be lead to open deck by a pipe;
3. On the wardroom / hospital entrance a warning sign indicating the presence of oxygen should be posted;
4. The oxygen bottle should be dealt with in the ships risk assessment.



3 The placement of four 10-litre 200 bar oxygen cylinders:

Instead of using one bottle of 40-litre oxygen it is allowed to use four bottles of 10-litre oxygen. Extra precautions are:

1. The 4 bottles should be stored in a fixed position in order to prevent movements during bad weather conditions;
2. One extra key to open the bottle, an extra pressure regulating unit with contents- and pressure gauge and an additional face mask with flexible connecting hose should be provided;
3. When the bottles are not used the seal has to remain intact in order to prevent leakages;
4. All bottles should have the same connection and colour;
5. The pressure in all bottles should be the same;
6. The bottles should have clear markings with "oxygen for medical use";
7. The oxygen bottles should be dealt with in the ships risk assessment.

Equivalent solutions may also be accepted.

4 Survey

Annual survey of the system to be carried out in conjunction with the annual survey for safety equipment certificate and should cover the following:

1. Control if it is documented that the cylinder(s), valve(s) etc. has been checked and tested according to the supplier's requirements;
2. Control if it is documented that the medical oxygen has been changed according to the medical authorities' requirements (which is every third year).