



РОССИЙСКИЙ МОРСКОЙ РЕГИСТР СУДОХОДСТВА

HEAD OFFICE

CIRCULAR LETTER

№ 313-6.6.3-605с

dd 22.11.2012

Re:

Amendments to Part VI "Fire Protection" of the Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms (ND No. 2-020201-12).

Item of supervision:

Mobile offshore drilling units and fixed offshore platforms

Implementation since 01.01.2013

Valid: till Republication of the Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms, 2012

Validity period prolonged till

Cancels / amends / adds circular letter № dd

Number of pages: 1

Appendices: 3

First Chief Operating Officer Igor A. Baranov

Amends Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms (ND № 2-020201-12).

This is to inform that due to coming into force of a new revision of the IACS Unified Requirement (UR) D11 "Safety Features" (Rev.3 Jan 2012), the amendments given in the Appendix to the Circular Letter shall be introduced to Part VI "Fire Protection" of the Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms.

These amendments will be introduced to the Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms, 2013.

It is necessary to do the following:

1. Familiarize the surveyors of RS Branch Offices and interested organizations in the area of the RS Branch Offices activity with the contents of the Circular Letter.
2. Apply provisions introduced by the Circular Letter.

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Appendix to Circular Letter
No. 313-6.6.3 -605c dd 22.11.2012

Amendments (supplements) introduced to
the Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and
Fixed Offshore Platforms (2012)
Part VI "Fire Protection"

In para **1.2.2** new definitions have been introduced:

“A self contained breathing apparatus of PPR type (positive-pressure respirator) is a device to support gage pressure in the face mask while breathing (inhalation and exhalation).

A self contained breathing apparatus of PDR type (pressure-demand respirator) is a device where the pressure reducer and exhalation valve maintain gage pressure in the mask except at high frequency of breathing. In case the apparatus of PDR type has any leakage, the pressure reducer provides fresh air supply into the mask, preventing ingress of the outside polluted air.”.

Para **1.3.1** has been supplemented with subparas 1.3.1.9 – 1.3.1.11 reading as follows:

“.9 location of emergency shutdown (engine shutdown, pump shutdown, oil fuel source shutdown, etc.) stations;

.10 location of blowout preventer control stations;

.11 arrangement of emergency muster stations and live-saving appliances;”.

Para **3.1.8** has been amended to read:

“**3.1.8** Instead of pressure water-spraying systems with the minimum water rate 20,4 l/min per m² required to protect the areas: drilling, process equipment, oil and gas collectors, mud circulation and treatment, piping containing oil and gases, compressed gas cylinders (oxygen, acetylene), etc., located on open deck, at least two dual-purpose (jet/spray) fire monitors may be used to cover drilling and process equipment areas, provided they are capable of supplying water in the areas of drilling and production, with the minimum capacity of each fire monitor not less than 100 m³/h. The monitors may be operated either remotely or locally. The monitor arranged for local operation shall be sited on an accessible protected position. Foam extinguishing system shall be provided for operation in drilling mud treatment area. The system shall be capable of delivering foam solution at a rate of not less than 6,5 l/min per m² (4,1 l/min per m² for aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) or fluoro-protein film forming foam (FFFF)) for 15 min. Alternatively, a fixed gas fire extinguishing system may be used for enclosed mud treatment spaces.”.

In para **3.2.1** before the first paragraph the following text has been introduced:

“Two water supply sources (sea chests, valves, strainers and pipes) shall be provided and so arranged that one water supply source failure will not put the other supply source out of action.”.

New para **3.2.16** has been introduced:

“**3.2.16** For the self-elevating units, the additional water supply measures shall be provided:

.1 water shall be supplied from water main filled by at least two submersible pumping systems, and one pumping system failure will not put other system out of action.

.2 water shall be supplied from drill water system while self-elevating unit lifting or lowering. Water is stored in the drill water tanks with capacity of not less than 40 m³ plus engine cooling water consumptions before unit lifting or lowering.”.

New para **4.1.2.2** has been introduced:

“**4.1.2.2** The fire detection main indicator board shall be placed at a permanently manned control station to indicate where fire has been detected:

.1 fire detectors shall be fitted in normally unattended machinery spaces, in this case fire detection systems using only thermal detectors shall not be permitted;

.2 automatic fire detection and alarm system shall be provided in accommodation and service spaces, and accommodation spaces shall be fitted with smoke detectors. Thermal detectors shall be fitted in galleys;

.3 smoke detectors shall be provided at control stations and in electrical rooms;

4. thermal or flame detectors shall be installed in drilling and mud treatment areas. Smoke detectors may be used in enclosed mud treatment areas.”.

Para **4.3.1** has been amended to read:

“**4.3.1** Fixed combustible gas (oil gases and vapours) and hydrogen sulphide detection and alarm systems shall be provided.

4.3.1.1 Fixed combustible gas detection and alarm systems shall be provided to protect the following areas:

blowout equipment area;

drilling floor;

mud pit area;

shale shaker area;

enclosed spaces containing the open components of mud circulation system (from the bell nipple to the mud pits);

ventilation intakes of enclosed machinery spaces contiguous to hazardous areas and containing internal combustion engines and boilers;

ventilation intakes and other near openings of accommodation spaces.

4.3.1.2 Fixed hydrogen sulphide detection and alarm system shall be provided to protect the following areas:

drilling floor;

drilling mud treatment area;

well area.

Hydrogen sulphide detectors shall be connected to an audible and visual alarm system with indicators at the central control station. The system shall indicate where gas has been detected. Low level alarm set at 3 mg/m³ and high level alarm set not higher than 10 mg/m³ shall be designed. The high level alarm shall activate an evacuation alarm. If the alarm at the central control station is unanswered within 2 min, hydrogen sulfide alarm and evacuation alarm shall be automatically activated.

4.3.1.2.1 The need for fixed automatic hydrogen sulphide detection and alarm system to be provided on FOP shall be determined on the basis of the results of hydrogen sulphide detection in the well fluid of the first exploration well.”.

In para **4.3.2.1** text after the words “oil gases and vapors” has been amended to read:

“not more than 25 per cent and 60 per cent of the lower explosive limit”.

New para **5.1.5** has been introduced:

“**5.1.5 Breathing equipment to protect the personnel against hydrogen sulphide:**

.1 self-contained breathing apparatuses of PPR/PDR types with full-face piece rated for a minimum of 30 min, shall be provided for each person in working areas where hydrogen sulphide may be encountered. Each person in other areas shall be provided with self-contained breathing apparatus of PPR/PDR types rated for a minimum of 15 min; or

.2 breathing air line coupled with a self-contained breathing apparatus of PPR/PDR types equipped with low pressure warning alarm installed and rated for a minimum of 15 min, shall be provided for each person on board the platform.

Breathing air supply line shall be provided at least in the following areas:

living quarters;

muster/evacuation areas;

drilling floor;

mud treatment area;

other working areas.”.