



RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING

CIRCULAR LETTER

No. 313-14-1310c

dated 30.12.2019

Re:

amendments to the Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms, 2018, ND No. 2-020201-015-E

Item(s) of supervision:

ships under construction

Entry-into-force date:

01.01.2020

~~Valid till:~~

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Number of pages:

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Appendices:

Appendix 1: information on amendments introduced by the Circular Letter

Appendix 2: text of amendments to Part VI "Fire Protection"

Director General

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Text of CL:

We hereby inform that in connection with entering into force on 1 January 2020 of IMO resolution MSC.435(98), the Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms shall be amended as specified in the Appendices to the Circular Letter.

It is necessary to do the following:

1. Bring the content of the Circular Letter to the notice of the RS surveyors, interested organizations and persons in the area of the RS Branch Offices' activity.
2. Apply the provisions of the Circular Letter during review and approval of the technical documentation on ships contracted for construction or conversion on or after 01.01.2020, in the absence of a contract for conversion – on ships undergoing conversion work on or after 01.01.2020.

List of the amended and/or introduced paras/chapters/sections:

Part VI: Table 2.1.2.3-1, paras 2.1.2.6, 2.1.4.1 and 2.2.3, Chapter 3.5

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**Information on amendments introduced by the Circular Letter
(for inclusion in the Revision History to the RS Publication)**

Nos.	Amended paras/chapters/sections	Information on amendments	Number and date of the Circular Letter	Entry-into-force date
1	Part VI, Table 2.1.2.3-1	Requirements for fire divisions have been specified considering IMO resolution MSC.435(98)	313-14-1310c of 30.12.2019	01.01.2020
2	Part VI, para 2.1.2.6	Requirements for location of spaces with regard to hazardous areas have been specified considering IMO resolution MSC.435(98)	313-14-1310c of 30.12.2019	01.01.2020
3	Part VI, para 2.1.4.1	Requirements for fire integrity of exterior boundaries of superstructures and deckhouses have been specified considering IMO resolution MSC.435(98)	313-14-1310c of 30.12.2019	01.01.2020
4	Part VI, para 2.2.3	Requirements for location of superstructures and deckhouses regarding protection of escape route to the embarkation position and survival craft have been specified considering IMO resolution MSC.435(98)	313-14-1310c of 30.12.2019	01.01.2020
5	Part VI, Chapter 3.5	New Chapter regarding the requirements for fire protection of drill floor has been introduced considering IMO resolution MSC.435(98)	313-14-1310c of 30.12.2019	01.01.2020

**Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling
Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms, 2018,**

ND No. 2-020201-015-E

PART VI. FIRE PROTECTION

2 STRUCTURAL FIRE PROTECTION

1 **Table 2.1.2.3-1.** Footnote 2 is replaced by the following text:

"² Additional provisions for fire divisions shall be assessed in accordance with 2.1.2.6. In no case shall the bulkhead or deck rating be less than the value indicated in Tables 2.1.2.3-1 and 2.1.2.3-2."

2 **Para 2.1.2.6** is replaced by the following text:

"**2.1.2.6** In general, accommodation spaces, service spaces, control stations and spaces containing vital machinery and equipment shall not be located adjacent to hazardous areas (vital machinery and equipment are those that are essential to the safety of the MODU and all personnel on board. They include, but are not limited to, fire pumps, emergency sources of power, dynamic positioning systems, remote blowout preventer activation controls, and other operational or safety systems the sudden failure of which may result in hazardous situations. This does not include spaces (e.g. the driller's cabin) located on the drill floor).

However, where this is not practicable, an engineering evaluation shall be performed in accordance with national or international standards (refer to standards such as ISO 13702:2015 or API RP 2 FB) to ensure that the level of fire protection and blast resistance of the bulkheads and decks separating these spaces from the hazardous areas are adequate for the likely hazard. Where it is shown that these spaces may be exposed to a radiant heat flux in excess of 100 kW/m², the bulkhead or deck shall be constructed to at least an "H-60" standard."

3 **Para 2.1.4.1** is replaced by the following text:

"**2.1.4.1** Exterior boundaries of superstructures and deckhouses enclosing accommodation spaces, including any overhanging decks, which support such accommodation spaces as stations, assembly stations and escape routes, as well as machinery and service spaces connected therewith shall be constructed to:

.1 H-60 standard for the whole of the portion, which faces and is within 30 m of the centre of the rotary table. For units that have a movable superstructure, the 30 m shall be measured with the superstructure at its closest drilling position to the specified spaces in all areas faced the drilling or process area liable to heat effect in case of fire in the specified areas;

.2 A-60 standard for all the rest areas."

2.2 LOCATION OF SPACES

4 **Para 2.2.3** is replaced by the following text:

"**2.2.3** Superstructures and deckhouses shall be sited such that, in the event of fire at the drill floor, at least one escape route to the embarkation position and survival craft is protected against radiant heat flux levels in excess of 2,5 kW/m² emanating from the drill floor."

3 FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS

5 **New Chapter 3.5** is introduced reading as follows:

"3.5 FIRE-EXTINGUISHING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DRILL FLOOR

3.5.1 The drill floor shall be protected by a fixed pressure water-spraying system designed to provide a minimum water application rate of 20 l/m²/min to the drill floor and related equipment, including emergency shutdown equipment, critical structural components, and enclosure fire barriers. Alternatively, multiple fixed monitors discharging at a minimum flow rate and pressure 1900 l/min at 1 N/mm² may be provided and arranged such that all areas and equipment can be reached by at least two monitors which are widely separated.

3.5.2 The system shall be designed for manual release from release stations located outside the protected area. Any section valves necessary for the operation of the system shall be located outside the protected area. Automatic release may be accepted.

3.5.3 Nozzles, piping, fittings and related components shall be designed to withstand exposure to temperatures up to 925 °C.

3.5.4 The main fire pumps may be used to supply the fixed pressure water-spraying system if they have sufficient capacity to simultaneously supply the fire main at the required flow and pressure."