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MSC.1/Circ.1567
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NOTIFICATION OF AMENDMENTS TO SOLAS REGULATION II-1/12.5.1

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its ninety-eighth session (7 to 16 June 2017), adopted, by resolution MSC.421(98), the replacement of the existing paragraph 5.1 of SOLAS regulation II-1/12 with the following new renumbered paragraph 6.1:

"6.1 Except as provided in paragraph 6.2, the collision bulkhead may be pierced below the bulkhead deck of passenger ships and the freeboard deck of cargo ships by not more than one pipe for dealing with fluid in the forepeak tank, provided that the pipe is fitted with a screw-down valve capable of being operated from above the bulkhead deck of passenger ships and the freeboard deck of cargo ships, the valve being located inside the forepeak at the collision bulkhead. The Administration may, however, authorize the fitting of this valve on the after side of the collision bulkhead provided that the valve is readily accessible under all service conditions and the space in which it is located is not a cargo space. Alternatively, for cargo ships, the pipe may be fitted with a butterfly valve suitably supported by a seat or flanges and capable of being operated from above the freeboard deck. All valves shall be of steel, bronze or other approved ductile material. Valves of ordinary cast iron or similar material are not acceptable."

2 In view of the above amendment which is expected to enter into force on 1 January 2020, Member States are invited to take action, as appropriate, pending its formal entry into force.

3 Member States are invited to bring the above information to the attention of all parties concerned.

4 This circular will remain effective until 1 January 2020.