

GUIDANCE NOTE No: 1/89

REVISION No:

Petrol Tanks - Under Deck Stowage

Following USL Code amendments which allow vessels of any length to be powered by outboards which operate on fuel having a flash point of less than 60°C, guidance notes have been prepared which clarify the new code requirements for petrol fuel tanks located within enclosures.

1. The design, construction and testing of fuel tanks remains the same, contents measurements shall be arranged such that in the event of a tank being overfilled spillage shall not occur via the gauging arrangements.

2. The volume of an independent fuel tank space is restricted.

Fuel tanks shall be securely installed in positions as remote from the engine and exhaust pipes as practicable in a compartment *liquid and vapour tight to all other compartments* no greater than four times the volume of the fuel tank(s). Fuel tank spaces which do not drain overboard and outboard shall be well ventilated and *the Survey Authority* may require gas detectors with audible or visual alarms at the control station. A flameproof extraction fan with *a suction from the bottom of the space may be required*. Provision is to be made to allow as far as practicable, the external inspection of the tanks and fittings.

No electrical connections or wiring *shall be fitted* within the fuel tank space *apart from* that necessary for tank content gauges. *The tank space* shall not be used for any other purpose than housing the fuel tanks.

A vent pipe shall be led from each tank and separately from each fuel tank space to an open position where no danger will arise from escaping vapour. Such air pipes shall comply with the construction section and have gauze diaphragms.

3. Fuel piping is to be approved and spillage inboard from filters is to be avoided.

Filters meeting the requirements of 15.5 which are not mounted in a position in which spillage of fuel would drain overboard shall be designed and installed so that their disassembly for cleaning purposes will result in minimum spillage.

These amendments are to become effective immediately for new design submissions and for all new installations from September 1989.

Signed by: Sri Srinivas

Date Issued: September 2000

For further information contact Marine Safety Branch:

2nd Floor, Energy House, 18-20 Cavenagh, Darwin NT 0800, GPO Box 2520, Darwin NT 0801

Telephone: 08 8924 7100, Facsimile: 08 8924 7009

Email: marinesafety@nt.gov.au

<http://www.nt.gov.au/dpi/>

Disclaimer : While care is taken to ensure that information contained in NT Government publications is true and correct at the time of the publication, this information is provided on the basis that users undertake responsibility for assessing the relevance, accuracy and currency of its content. The Northern Territory of Australia gives no warranty or assurance and makes no representation, express or implied, as to the accuracy of this information or that it is suitable for your intended use. To the maximum extent permitted by law, each user waives and releases the Territory from any and all claims relating to the use of this information and in no event shall the Territory of Australia be liable for loss or damage arising directly or indirectly from the use of or reliance on it for whatever purpose.