



Clarification of section 10 of the Fire Protection Regulations

The Norwegian Maritime Authority has noted a need for clarification of the requirements of section 10 of the Regulations of 31 January 1984 No. 227 on precautionary measures against fire and explosion on mobile offshore units (Fire Protection Regulations). This letter is sent to the industry to clarify the content of these requirements.

The requirements of section 10 item 3 shall apply in addition to the requirements of section 10 item 2 and shall read as follows:

3.1 The fire extinguishing system shall be connected to a fire detection system. The fire extinguishing system shall be released automatically in the event of fire and shall be secured against error sources from the fire detection system, and shall in addition be capable of manual release.

3.2 In spaces where unintentional release of the system could cause a critical situation or risk to life or health, the system shall only be capable of manual release.

Section 10 items 3.1 and 3.2 must be viewed in context with each another. Section 10 item 3.1 requires that the fire extinguishing system must be equipped with both automatic and manual release. However, in spaces where unintentional release of the system could cause a critical situation or risk to life or health, the system shall only be capable of manual release, cf. section 10 item 3.2.

The company must assess all spaces with fixed fire-extinguishing systems taking into account the risk automatic release may have to injuries and to an unintentional stop of power generation to safety-critical systems. In spaces where the company assesses this risk as not acceptable, the system shall only be capable of manual release. The assessment shall be in written form and be presented upon request.

Yours faithfully,

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