

MPC 129

Unprotected openings

(June 2016)

MARPOL Annex I / Regulation 28.3.3

Subdivision and Damage stability

The stability in the final stage of flooding shall be investigated and may be regarded as sufficient if the righting lever curve has at least a range of 20 degree beyond the position of equilibrium in association with a maximum residual righting lever of at least 0.1 m within the 20 degree range; the area under the curve within this range shall not be less than 0.0175 metre radian. Unprotected openings shall not be immersed within this range unless the space concerned is assumed to be flooded. Within this range, the immersion of any of the openings listed in subparagraph 3.1 of this paragraph and other openings capable of being closed weathertight may be permitted.

Interpretation

Other openings capable of being closed weathertight do not include ventilators (complying with ILLC 19(4)) that for operational reasons have to remain open to supply air to the engine room or emergency generator room (if the same is considered buoyant in the stability calculation or protecting openings leading below) for the effective operation of the ship.

Note:

1. This Unified Interpretation is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies on ships contracted for construction on or after 1 January 2017.
2. The “contracted for construction” date means the date on which the contract to build the vessel is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. For further details regarding the date of “contract for construction”, refer to IACS Procedural Requirement (PR) No. 29.

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