

**REPUBLIC OF PANAMA**

*Ministry of Finance and Treasury*

*Office of the Directorate of Merchant Marine Circular No. 28*

*Consular and Maritime Affairs*

**To:** Shipowners/Operators, Shipbuilders and Approved Classification Societies

**Subject:** Regulations Concerning Construction - Fire Protection, Fire Detection, and Fire  
Extinguishment for New Cargo Ships of more than 500 Tons Gross Tonnage

1. Cargo ships of more than 500 tons gross tonnage whose keels were laid or which were at a similar stage of construction on or after 1 July 1976, shall comply with SOLAS 1974/81/83 regulations concerning Construction - Fire Protection, Fire Detection and Fire Extinguishment according to requirements in Part D of II-2 and regulations 4 to 16 of Part A, where applicable of same Chapter. Such vessels shall also comply with other applicable requirements prescribed by SOLAS 1974/81/83.
2. Unless expressly provided otherwise, for cargo ships of more than 500 gross tonnage constructed before 1 July 1986 this Administration will ensure that the requirements which are applicable under Chapter II-2 of the SOLAS 1974, as amended by resolution MSC.1(XLV) adopted on 20 November 1981, are complied with.

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Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular should be directed to:  
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