

RESOLUTION A.164(ES.IV)

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING CHECKING THE  
CONSTANCY OF THE PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS

The Assembly,

*Noting* Article 16(i) of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly,

*Noting also* Recommendation 11 of the International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea, 1960,

*Recognizing* that the properties of materials approved for structural fire protection in ships might change with the course of time,

*Having considered* the Recommendation adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee at its seventeenth session,

*Adopts* the Recommendation concerning Checking the Constancy of the Properties of Materials, the text of which is set out in the Annex to this Resolution,

*Invites* all governments concerned to take steps to give effect to the Recommendation as soon as possible.

ANNEX

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING CHECKING THE CONSTANCY  
OF THE PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS

1. Attention of Administrations should be drawn to the fact that the properties of the constituent materials approved for the structural fire protection in ships may change with the course of time, thus casting doubt on the validity of previous tests.

The properties may change in two different ways:

(1) During subsequent *manufacture* of the constituent materials (substantial changes in the method of manufacture of which the user has not been informed).

(2) During the *life of the ship*, as a result of ageing of the materials, seriously impairing the original properties.

2. Changes in manufacture may justify certain measures of periodical or occasional inspection by Administrations, so that they may satisfy themselves of the constancy of the properties of the materials; it is the task of Administrations to investigate whether these changes are such as to justify new laboratory tests on the materials.

3. The second type of change - deterioration during service - may involve laboratory investigation of the ageing of the constituent materials, provided that the ageing cycle adopted is representative of actual conditions on board ship.

4. This investigation should be based on a critical examination of pieces of material made available as a result of modification or demolition of existing ships. It would of course be necessary to know the initial level of the mechanical or chemical properties of the materials being studied. It would be useful to assemble documentary material on this subject and to investigate whether particular changes in properties lead to an increase or decrease in fire hazard properties including flame-spread characteristics.

28 November 1968  
Agenda item 9

#### RESOLUTION A.165(ES.IV)

##### PROVISIONAL GUIDELINES ON TEST PROCEDURES FOR DECK COVERINGS

The Assembly,

*Noting* Article 16(i) of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly,

*Noting also* Regulations 41 and 54 and proposed Regulation 105 of Chapter II of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1960, concerning deck coverings,

*Noting further* Recommendation 11 of the International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea, 1960,

*Desiring* to ensure uniformity in the test procedures for deck coverings,

*Having considered* the Provisional Guidelines adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee at its seventeenth session,

*Adopts* the Provisional Guidelines on Test Procedures for Deck Coverings, the text of which is set out in the Annex to this Resolution,

*Invites* all governments concerned to take appropriate steps to give effect to the Guidelines as soon as possible,

*Requests* the Maritime Safety Committee to continue the study on this subject,

*Authorizes* the Maritime Safety Committee to amend the Guidelines if necessary in the light of such study.

#### ANNEX

##### PROVISIONAL GUIDELINES ON TEST PROCEDURES FOR DECK COVERINGS

#### *Foreword*

1. The present guidelines are intended to provide information to Administrations, laboratories and other interested bodies concerning the assessment of requisite properties of deck coverings. The work of the Organization in this field has not yet been finalized, and there are certain difficulties in the interpretation of relevant provisions of the 1960 Safety Convention. Accordingly, these guidelines are of provisional character.