

ANNEX 4

DRAFT MSC CIRCULAR

**INTERPRETATION OF SOLAS REGULATION II-2/15.2.11, IN FORCE BEFORE
1 JULY 2002, ON SCREENING OF PIPING FOR OIL FUEL**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its [seventy-seventh session (28 May to 6 June 2002)], approved, with a view to ensuring uniform application of the requirements of SOLAS chapter II-2 containing vague expressions open to diverging interpretations, the following interpretation of SOLAS regulation II-2/15.2.11 in force before 1 July 2002, stating that oil fuel piping shall be screened or otherwise suitably protected to avoid, as far as practicable, oil spray or oil leakages onto hot surfaces^{or}, into machinery intakes. The requirements have been in force since 1 July 1998 and ships constructed before that date shall comply with regulation II-2/15.2.11 not later than 1 July 2003.

2 ***Interpretation of SOLAS regulations II-2/15.2.11***

Spray shields should be fitted around flanged joints, flanged bonnets and any other flanged or threaded connections in fuel oil piping systems under pressure exceeding 0.18 N/mm² which are located above or near units of high temperature, including boilers, steam pipes, exhaust manifolds, silencers or other equipment required to be insulated by SOLAS regulation II-2/15.2.10.

3 Member Governments are invited to use the above interpretation as guidance when applying relevant provisions of SOLAS chapter II-2 to fire protection construction, installation, arrangements and equipment to be installed on board ships constructed before and after 1 July 1998, in order to fulfil the requirements of the 1974 SOLAS Convention, and to bring the interpretation to the attention of all parties concerned.
