

**GF3**

(Dec 2017)

**Tank connection space for tanks on open deck and tank connection space equipment**

The International Code of Safety for Ships Using Gases or Other Low-Flashpoint Fuels (IGF Code), MSC Res.391(95), at paragraph 2.2.15.3 states:

*Tank connection space is a space surrounding all tank connections and tank valves that is required for tanks with such connections in enclosed spaces.*

**Interpretation**

1 A tank connection space may be required also for tanks on open deck. This may apply for ships where restriction of hazardous areas is safety critical. A tank connection space may also be necessary in order to provide environmental protection for essential safety equipment related to the gas fuel system like tank valves, safety valves and instrumentation.

2 A tank connection space may also contain equipment such as vaporizers or heat exchangers. Such equipment is considered to only contain potential sources of release, but not sources of ignition

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**Note:**

1. This Unified Interpretation is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies on ships contracted for construction on or after 1 January 2018.

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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