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Statutory Documents - IMO Publications and Documents - Circulars - Maritime Safety Committee -

MSC/Circular.669 – Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27(61) – (Adopted on 22 December 1994)

MSC/Circular.669 – Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27(61) – (Adopted on 22 December 1994)

[The Maritime Safety Committee](#)

[Annex - Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27\(61\)](#)

[Footnotes](#)

Parent topic: [Maritime Safety Committee](#)

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MSC/Circular.669 – Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27(61) – (Adopted on 22 December 1994) - The Maritime Safety Committee

The Maritime Safety Committee

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-fourth session (5 to 9 December 1994), recalled that, at its sixty-first session (7 to 11 December 1993), it adopted, by resolution MSC.27(61), amendments to chapter II-2 of the 1974 SOLAS Convention which entered into force on 1 October 1994. The Committee, eventually recognizing the need to provide Administrations with a guidance for the uniform application of the said amendments, agreed to relevant interpretations given in annex.

2 Member Governments are invited to take account of the annexed interpretations when applying the relevant requirements of chapter II-2 of the 1974 SOLAS Convention.

Parent topic: [MSC/Circular.669 – Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27\(61\) – \(Adopted on 22 December 1994\)](#)

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Annex - Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27(61)

[1 Regulation II-2/18.1.1 - Miscellaneous items](#)

[2 Regulation II-2/24 - Main vertical zones and horizontal zones](#)

[3 Regulation II-2/24.1.1 - Main vertical zones and horizontal zones](#)

[4 Regulation II-2/25.3 - Bulkheads within a main vertical zone](#)

[5 Regulation II-2/28.1.5 - Means of escape](#)

[6 Regulation II-2/32.1.3 - Ventilation systems](#)

[7 Regulation II-2/37.1.2.1 - Protection of special category spaces](#)

[Appendix](#)

Parent topic: [MSC/Circular.669 – Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27\(61\) – \(Adopted on 22 December 1994\)](#)

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1 Regulation II-2/18.1.1 - Miscellaneous items

1 Regulation II-2/18.1.1 - Miscellaneous items

The arrangements which should be adopted when an "A" class division is penetrated by a ventilation

duct are those contained in [regulation II-2/16](#) [footnote](#).

Parent topic: [Annex - Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27\(61\)](#)

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2 Regulation II-2/24 - Main vertical zones and horizontal zones

If a stairway serves two main vertical zones, the maximum length of one main vertical zone should be measured from the far side of the main vertical zone stairway enclosure. In this case, all boundaries of the stairway enclosure should be insulated as main vertical zone bulkheads and access doors leading into the stairway should be provided from the zones (see figures 1 to 4 in the [appendix](#)). However, if the stairway should not be included in calculating the size of the main vertical zone if it is treated as its own main vertical zone.

Parent topic: [Annex - Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27\(61\)](#)

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3 Regulation II-2/24.1.1 - Main vertical zones and horizontal zones

When fuel oil tanks are on both sides of the division, the standard may also be reduced to "A-0".

Parent topic: [Annex - Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27\(61\)](#)

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4 Regulation II-2/25.3 - Bulkheads within a main vertical zone

4 Regulation II-2/25.3 - Bulkheads within a main vertical zone

This section is superseded by [MSC/Circular.917](#) – Guidelines on Fire Safety Construction in Accommodation Areas.

Parent topic: [Annex - Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27\(61\)](#)

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5 Regulation II-2/28.1.5 - Means of escape

5 Regulation II-2/28.1.5 - Means of escape

The stairway arrangement required by regulation II-2/28.1.5 for below bulkhead deck compartments of one main vertical zone can be arranged by:

- one enclosed stairway which provides a continuous fire shelter from the level of its origin to the embarkation deck in one watertight compartment;
- each of the other compartments have an enclosed stairway which provides a continuous fire shelter from the level of its origin to the bulkhead deck; and
- the continuous fire shelter is also provided on the bulkhead deck through a route protected as a category 2 space (horizontal stairway) see [figure 5](#) in the appendix).

Parent topic: [Annex - Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27\(61\)](#)

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6 Regulation II-2/32.1.3 - Ventilation systems

6 Regulation II-2/32.1.3 - Ventilation systems

A duct, irrespective of its cross section, serving more than one tweendeck should be fitted, near the penetration of each deck served, with a fire or smoke damper.

Such dampers should close automatically by means of a fusible link or other suitable device, and manually from the deck in which the passage of smoke, due to a fire in the deck immediately below which is served by the same duct, will be avoided.

Where, within a main vertical zone, a fan serves more than one tweendeck through separate ducts, each of these dedicated to a single tweendeck, each duct should be provided with a manually operated smoke damper fitted close to the fan.

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7 Regulation II-2/37.1.2.1 - Protection of special category spaces

7 Regulation II-2/37.1.2.1 - Protection of special category spaces

Where fuel oil tanks are below a special category space, the standard may be reduced to "A-0".

Parent topic: [Annex - Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27\(61\)](#)

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Appendix

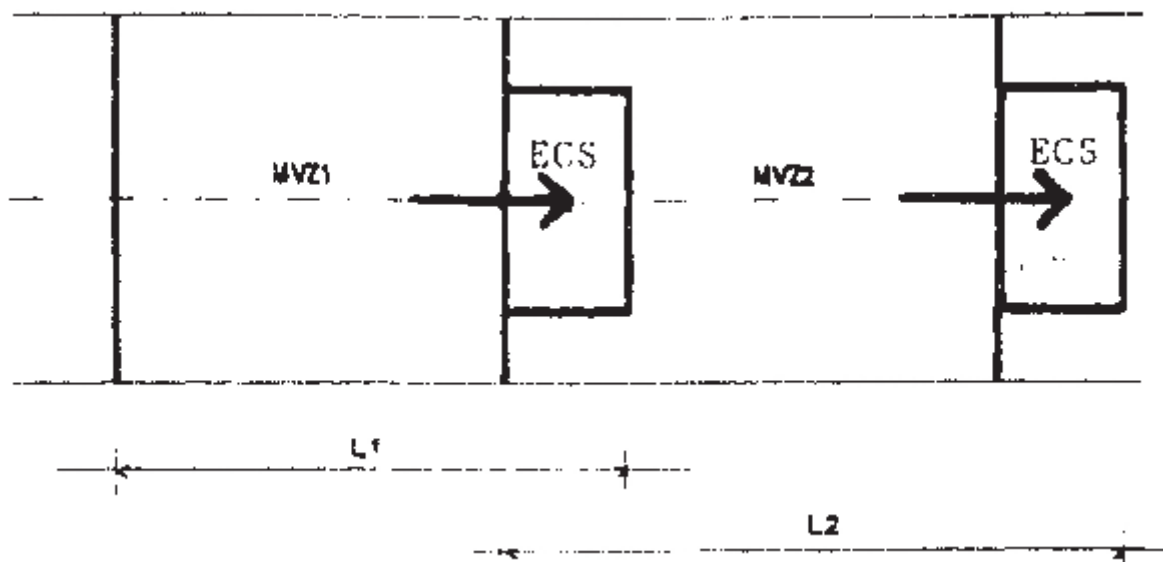


Figure 1 ECS serves one MVZ

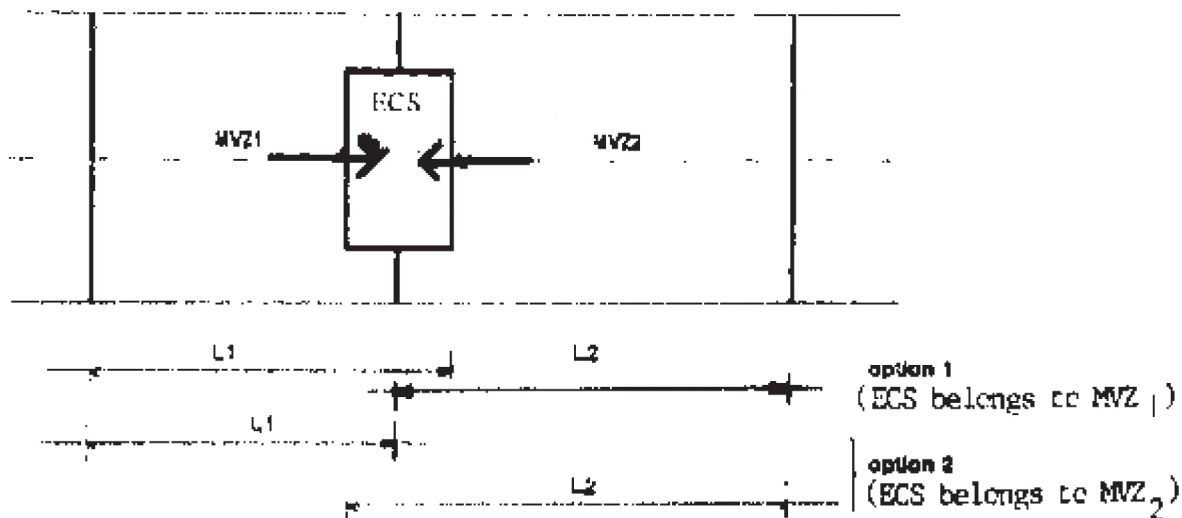


Figure 2 ECS serves two MVZ

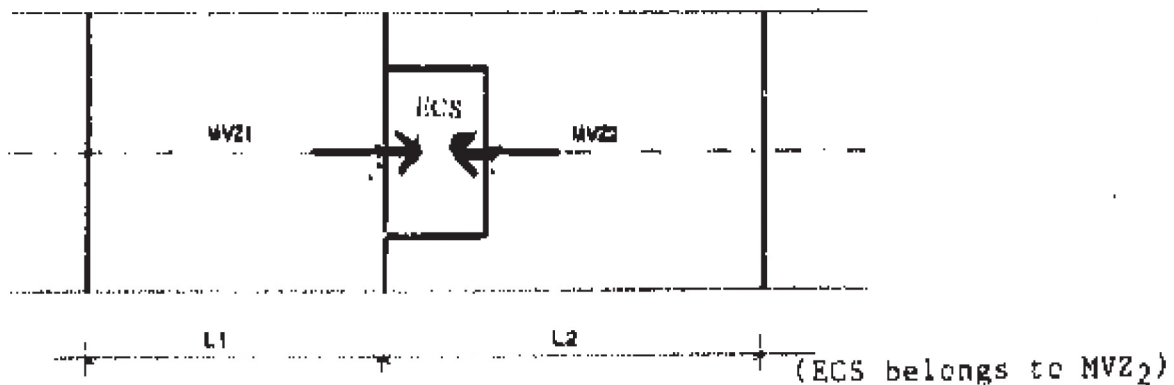


Figure 3 ECS serves two MVZ

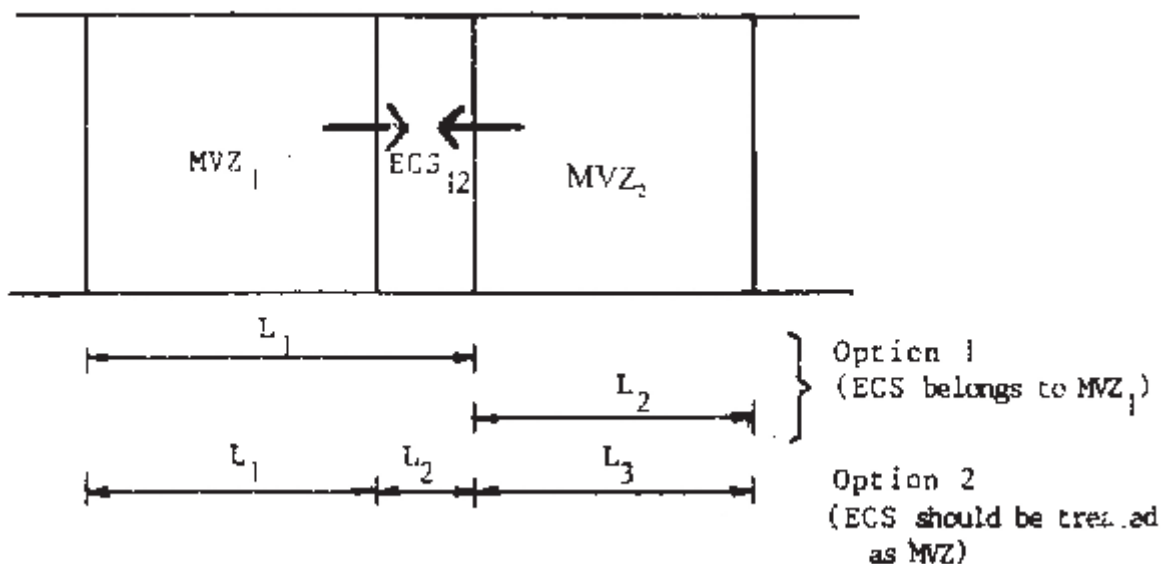


Figure 4 ECS serves two MVZ

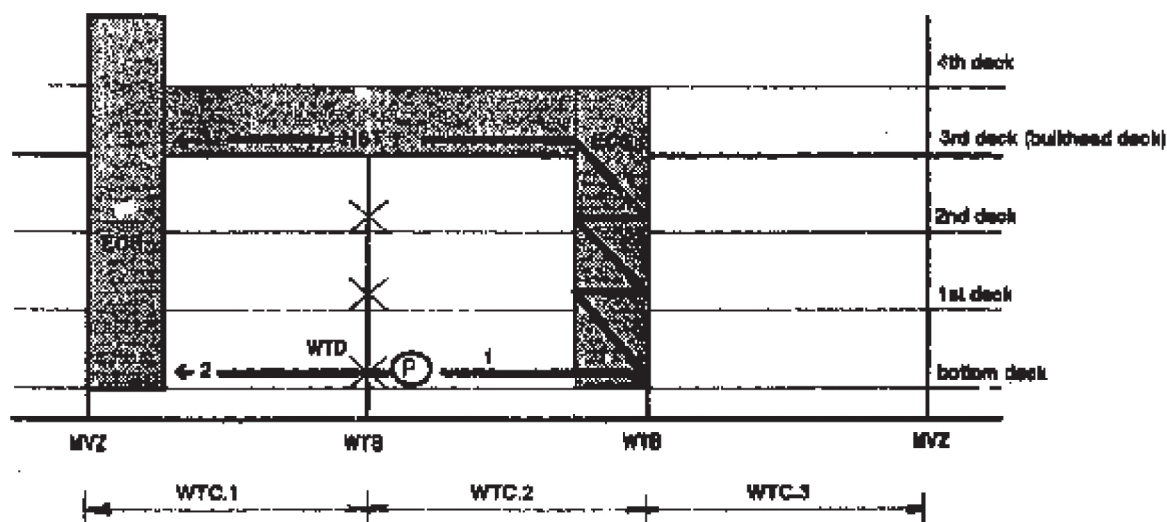


Figure 5 Means of Escape through a route protected as a category 2 space (horizontal stairway)

Parent topic: [Annex - Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2, As Amended by Resolution MSC.27\(61\)](#)

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Footnotes

[Footnote](#)

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Footnote

Parent topic: [Footnotes](#)

Refer to the Recommendation on Fire Resistance Tests for "A", "B" and "F" Class Divisions, adopted by the Organization by resolution A.754(18).

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