TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS, AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

SUBJECT: Fire Extinguishing Requirements for Paint and Flammable Liquid Lockers on Existing Vessels.

Reference: IMO Resolution MSC.13(57), 11 April 1989

PURPOSE:

IMO Resolution MSC.13(57) issued 11 April 1989 incorporated several amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (SOLAS 1974) with effect on 1 February 1992. One of these amendments, Regulation 18.7 in Chapter II-2, stipulated requirements be established by administrations for fire extinguishing capability in paint lockers and flammable liquid lockers. This Notice provides the National requirements based on the Administration’s interpretation of the intent of the regulation for vessels with a keel laid, or at a similar stage of construction, before 1 July 2002. This Notice supersedes Rev. 7/02.

REQUIREMENTS:

1.0 Requirements for Marshall Islands Vessels

1.1 Existing Vessels with Keel Laid before 1 February 1992

.1 Lockers of 10m² (i.e., 5m x 2m) or less in deck area - one portable fire extinguisher located outside the entrance to the space.

.2 Lockers greater than 10m², but less than 20m² in deck area - two portable fire extinguishers located outside the entrance to the space.

.3 Lockers greater than 20m² in deck area - a suitable fixed fire extinguishing system as defined below.
1.2 **Existing Vessels with Keel Laid After 1 February 1992 and Before 1 February 1998**

.1 Lockers of 10m$^2$ (i.e. 5m x 2m) or less in deck area - one portable fire extinguisher located outside the entrance to the space.

.2 Lockers greater than 10m$^2$ in deck area - a suitable fixed fire extinguishing system as described below.

1.3 **Existing Vessels with Keel Laid After 1 February 1998 and Before 1 July 2002**

.1 Lockers of 4m$^2$ (i.e. 2m x 2m) or less in deck area - one portable fire extinguisher located outside the entrance to the space.

.2 Lockers greater than 4m$^2$ in deck area - a suitable fixed fire extinguishing system as described below.

2.0 **Definitions Applying to This Notice**

2.1 **Portable Fire Extinguisher** - An extinguisher which is designed to be carried and operated by hand and which has a maximum fully charged weight of 23 kg (50.7 pounds). The minimum size for paint and flammable liquid lockers is either:

.1 Carbon Dioxide; with a charge of 6.8 kg (15 pounds)

.2 Dry Chemical; with a charge of 4.5 kg (10 pounds)

2.2 **Suitable Fixed Extinguishing System** - A system designed to a recognized standard and of a medium and capacity as follows:

.1 Carbon Dioxide; for at least 40% of the space gross volume.

.2 Dry Chemical; for at least 0.5 kg/cubic meter of space gross volume.

.3 Water Spray; with at least 5 liters/square meter of deck area/minute.