



Ref. T4/4.01

MSC/Circ.1004
14 June 2001

**UNIFIED INTERPRETATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODE FOR APPLICATION
OF FIRE TEST PROCEDURES (FTP CODE) AND FIRE TEST PROCEDURES
REFERRED TO IN THE CODE**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-fourth session (30 May to 8 June 2001), with a view to ensuring uniform application of the fire test provisions of the FTP Code containing vague wording which is open to diverging interpretations, approved unified interpretations prepared by the Sub-Committee on Fire Protection at its forty-fifth session, as set out in the annex.

2 Member Governments are invited to use the annexed unified interpretations as guidance, when applying relevant provisions of the FTP Code for the testing of new materials, tested on or after 1 June 2001, in order to fulfill the requirements of the 1974 SOLAS Convention, and to bring the unified interpretations to the attention of all parties concerned.

3 Member Governments are also advised to take into account earlier unified interpretations to the FTP Code and fire test procedures referred to in the Code approved by MSC 72, as given in MSC/Circ.964.

ANNEX**UNIFIED INTERPRETATIONS TO THE FTP CODE AND FIRE TEST PROCEDURES
REFERRED TO IN THE CODE****INTERNATIONAL CODE FOR APPLICATION OF FIRE TEST PROCEDURES****5 APPROVAL*****Paragraph 5.1.6.5***

For cases where an unsuccessful test had been conducted prior to the final approval test, the fire test report should include a description of the modifications made to the test specimen that resulted in the successful test.

**ANNEX 1
FIRE TEST PROCEDURES****Part 5 – Test for surface flammability*****Section 1 - Application***

Where a product is approved based on a test of a specimen applied on a non-combustible substrate, that product should be approved for application to any non-combustible substrate with similar or higher density (similar density may be defined as a density ≥ 0.75 x the density used during testing) or with a greater thickness if the density is more than 400 kg/m^3 . Where a product is approved on the basis of a test result obtained after application on a metallic substrate (e.g. thin film of paints or plastic films on steel plates), such a product should be approved for application to any metallic base of similar or higher thickness (similar thickness is obtained as a thickness ≥ 0.75 x the thickness of metallic substrate used during testing).

Part 6 – Test for primary deck coverings***Paragraph 2.2 – Fire test procedure***

The test may be terminated after 40 min.

RESOLUTION A.653(16), Annex***Paragraph 7***

Where a product is approved based on a test of a specimen applied on a non-combustible substrate, that product should be approved for application to any non-combustible substrate with similar or higher density (similar density may be defined as a density ≥ 0.75 x the density used during testing) or with a greater thickness if the density is more than 400 kg/m^3 . Where a product is approved on the basis of test result obtained after application on a metallic substrate (e.g. thin film of paints or plastic films on steel plates), such a product should be approved for application to any metallic base of similar or higher thickness (similar thickness is obtained as a thickness ≥ 0.75 x the thickness of metallic substrate used during testing).

Paragraph 8.3.1

In the first line of the first sentence, the word “or” should read “of”.

Paragraph 10

Q_{sb} means an average of three values of average heat for sustained burning, as defined in paragraph 9.3.

RESOLUTION A.754(18), Annex

Paragraph 1.6

Doors, windows and other division penetrations intended to be installed in fire divisions made of material other than steel should correspond to prototype(s) tested on a division made of such material, unless the Administration is satisfied that the construction, as approved, does not impair the fire resistance of the division regardless of the division construction.
