	<p align="center"><u>DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING,</u> <u>GOVT.OF INDIA,</u> <u>MUMBAI</u></p>	<p align="center">IS/ISO Clause No.7.1</p>
<p>Ref.: QMS 7.0</p>	<p align="center">Subject: Discontinuation of approval for Augmentation for FPFF course</p>	<p>F. No. TR/CIR/6(4)/2018</p>
<p>Issued by the Director General of Shipping & Secretary to the Govt. of India</p>	<p align="center">Training Circular No.21 of 2018</p>	<p>Date : 23.8.2018</p>

1. The Directorate has received representations from existing Maritime Training Institutes (MTI) and new institutes which desire to seek approval for conducting maritime courses regarding the mandatory requirement of “Augmentation of FPFF” facility. Developing facility (“Augmentation of FPFF”) for practical exercise require land outside city areas, various permissions from local authorities, huge financial investment for purchase and installation of equipment. This facility is used only once in two weeks and remains idle for most of the time.

2. The mandatory requirement of “Augmentation of FPFF” facility for seeking approval for Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting (FPFF) course was reviewed at the Directorate.
3. The Chapter V of STCW Convention 1978 as amended in 2010 pertains to the standards regarding special training requirements for personnel on certain types of ships. The Table A-V/1-1-1 of the STCW Code 1978 as amended in 2010 gives the specification of minimum standard of competence in basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations. The Table A-V/1-2-1 of the STCW Code 1978 as amended in 2010 gives the specification of minimum standard of competence in basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations.
4. As per Table A-V/1-1-1 and Table A-V/1-2-1 of the STCW Code 1978 as amended in 2010, one of the competencies required is to carry out fire-fighting operations. Under this competence element, the knowledge, understanding and proficiency required are “Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations” and “Fixed dry chemical operations” among others. The methods for demonstrating this competence is through practical exercises and instructions conducted under approved and truly realistic training conditions.
5. It was difficult for the maritime training institutes conducting the basic courses for oil, chemical and gas familiarization to develop infrastructure to include the practical exercise. It was imperative to have infrastructure for the practical exercises at short notice owing to phenomenal increase in demand of seafarers to undertake the basic tanker familiarization courses.
6. The Directorate, therefore, through its Circular No: STCW 2010 Training Circular No. 03 of 2012, made it mandatory for all maritime training institutes conducting Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting (FPFF) course to upgrade their

training facilities to include the facilities for practical exercises for “Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations” and “Fixed dry chemical operations” within 3 months.


7. Thus “Augmentation of FPFF” course is a practical exercise for “Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations” and “Fixed dry chemical operations” where the use of fixed fire fighting system is demonstrated.
8. Seafarers desiring to acquire “Certificate of Proficiency in Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and / or “Certificate of Proficiency in Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations” are required to undertake “Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and / or “Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations” along with “Augmentation for FPFF” course.
9. Noting that a surplus of supply for conducting practical exercise of “Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations” and “Fixed dry chemical operations” is now available. 70% of the MTIs’ conducting “Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and 66% of the MTIs’ conducting “Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations” now comply with the requirements of facility for conducting practical exercise as required.
10. Noting that there are around hundred institutes aspiring to seek approval for conducting FPFF course. The mandatory requirement of seeking approval for “Augmentation of FPFF” shall create redundant inventory and financial loss for maritime training institutes.
11. Taking cognizance of the above and to enhance ease of business, the Directorate now issues the following directives:

- 11.1. The “Augmentation of FPFF” course shall not be henceforth approved by the Directorate as a separate stand alone course. The requirements of “Augmentation of FPFF” shall be verified and inspected during approval of courses “Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and / or “Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations”.
- 11.2. The Augmentation of FPFF course shall be taken out of the list of DGS approved courses on 31 / 03 / 2019 and the course shall not be available on DGS e-governance portal for uploading batch details. Maritime training institutes are therefore discouraged to conduct this course at the earliest. The time till 31 / 03 / 2019 is for the candidates who have already completed their “Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and / or “Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations” but have not completed the Augmentation for FPFF course.
- 11.3. The practical exercise for “Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations” and “Fixed dry chemical operations” shall now be the integral part of the courses “Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and “Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations” as required by STCW Convention 1978, as amended. This shall be strictly applicable for the courses commencing from 01 / 10 / 2018. It shall be mandatory for maritime training institute conducting the above mentioned courses to impart practical training.
- 11.4. The maritime training institutes conducting “Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and/or “Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations” should include practical exercise for “Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations” and “Fixed dry chemical operations” in the course syllabus and time table.

- 11.5. The maritime training institutes conducting “Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and/or “Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations” shall maintain video recording of practical exercise for “Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations” and “Fixed dry chemical operations” retain the recordings for a period of at least 03 months.
- 11.6. The existing maritime training institutes conducting “Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and/or “Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations” should either have their own facility for providing practical exercise for “Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations” and “Fixed dry chemical operations” OR a tie-up arrangement with other maritime training institute for the same not later than 01 / 10 / 2018.
- 11.7. The institutes desiring to seek approval for conducting “Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and/or “Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations” should either have their own facility for providing practical exercise for “Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations” and “Fixed dry chemical operations” OR a tie-up arrangement with other maritime training institute for the same.
- 11.8. The course completion certificate issued to seafarer for satisfactorily completing the “Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations” and/or “Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations” from 01 / 10 / 2018 shall mean that the seafarer has undertaken practical exercise for “Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations” and “Fixed dry chemical operations”.
- 11.9. Seafarers doing the mentioned courses after 01 / 10 / 2018 shall not be required to do separate Augmentation course in order to acquire Certificate of Proficiency

in "Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations" and/or "Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations".

- 11.10. The institutes desiring to seek approval for conducting "Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting" (FPFF) course should either have their own facility (fire fighting mock up) for providing practical training OR a tie-up arrangement with other maritime training institute for the same.
- 11.11. The institutes desiring to have their own facility for providing practical exercise for "Fixed fire-fighting foam system operations" and "Fixed dry chemical operations" may get their facility plan approved by IRS OR use the plan which is already approved by IRS for other maritime training institute. However, the certification, installation, testing, and approval procedures shall remain applicable.
- 11.12. The mandatory requirement of seeking approval for "Augmentation of FPFF" facility for approval of FPFF course is abolished with immediate effect.
12. This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping and Secretary to Government of India.


(Ashish Wankhede) 20/8/23
Dy. Director General of Shipping

To,
All DGS approved MTIs
PO/MMDs
E. Gov / Computer Cell