



Subject: Revised Emergency Response Procedures for Ships Carrying Dangerous Goods (EmS Guide).

In accordance with the International Safety Management (ISM) Code, all ships, and the companies responsible for their operation, are required to maintain a Safety Management System (SMS). Within the SMS, procedures for responding to potential shipboard emergencies are required. The EmS Guide is intended to assist ship-owners, ship operators and other parties concerned with developing such emergency response procedures, which should be integrated into the ship's contingency plan.

Application:

The Revised EmS Guide takes into account the amendment 39-18 to the IMDG Code which became applicable on voluntary basis from 1 January 2019 and is mandatory on 1 January 2020 for all ships which intended to carry dangerous cargoes (refer to IMDG code) onboard.

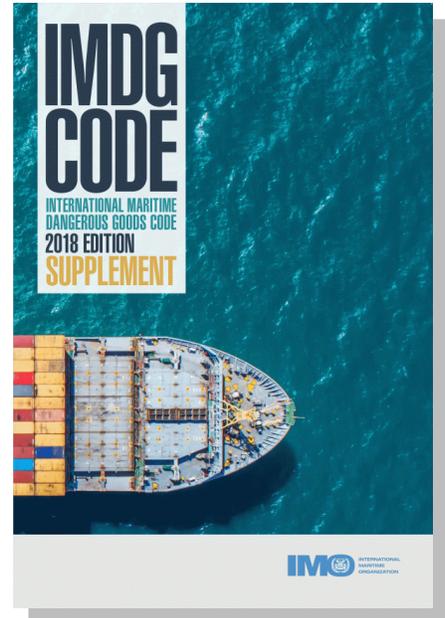
Descriptions & requirements for ships:

In November 1997, the IMO Assembly adopted resolution A.852(20) on Guidelines for a structure of an integrated system of contingency planning for shipboard emergencies. This Guide should be integrated into Module IV on Response actions, as contained in paragraph 3.2.4.6 of the aforementioned resolution, for cargo-related incidents.

The EmS Guide contains guidance on Emergency Response Procedures for Ships Carrying Dangerous Goods including the Emergency Schedules (EmS) to be followed in case of incidents involving dangerous substances, materials or articles, or harmful substances (marine pollutants), regulated under the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code).

The purpose of this Guide is to provide guidance for dealing with fires and spillages (leakages) on board ships involving the dangerous goods listed in the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code).

In the event of a fire or spillage incident, initial actions should be carried out in accordance with the shipboard emergency plan. Where dangerous goods are involved, the responses in the emergency plan should be based on this Guide for specific dangerous goods having regard to, inter alia, the type of ship, the quantity and type of packaging of the dangerous goods and whether the goods are stowed on or under deck.



The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) at its ninety-ninth session approved the Revised Emergency Response Procedures for Ships Carrying Dangerous Goods (EMS Guide) vide MSC.1/Circ.1588.

Ship owners/ operators and masters are advised to be guided by above.

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