

	<p align="center">GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA</p> <p align="center">DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SERVICES AND</p> <p align="center">MERCHANT SHIPPING (ADOMS)</p> <p align="center">Circular 02-012-05</p> <p align="center">Maintenance and inspection of fire protection systems and appliances</p>	Document	Circ. 02-012-05
		Revision	01
		Page	1 of 1
		Reference	1. SOLAS 74, as amended Chapter II-2, reg. 14 2. MSC/Circ. 850 (Annex)

Circular letter to:

all companies having registered their ships under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.;
all ships registered under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.;
all relevant class societies.

The Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS) wish to draw the attention of companies, masters, officers and classification societies to the requirements for the maintenance and inspection of fire protection systems and appliances, as required by SOLAS 1974, as amended, chapter II-2, reg. 14.

1. Maintenance, testing and inspection of fire protection systems and appliances shall be carried out in accordance with the standards developed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), as defined in MSC/Circ. 850, dated 08 June 1998.
2. The weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual tests and inspections of fire protection systems and appliances in accordance with MSC/Circ. 850 may be carried out by the ship's crew.
3. In addition to the requirements as stipulated under para. 2 above, inspections by authorized shore based servicing facilities shall be conducted for the following fire protection systems and appliances every two years:
 - .1 Fixed fire extinguishing installations, including verification of cylinder contents
 - .2 Portable fire extinguishers
 - .3 Breathing apparatus
4. Hydrostatic testing of pressure cylinders other than SCBA's cylinders shall be carried out in accordance with the relevant classification societies' requirements for cylinders under pressure.
5. All parties concerned are requested to take note of the applicable requirements for the maintenance and inspection of fire protection systems and appliances, as set in this circular and the annex thereto.

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