International Code of Safety for ships using gas or other low flash-point fuels (IGF Code)

Turid Stemre
Senior Adviser
Legislation and International Relations

LNG Fuel Forum
Stockholm 20-21 September 2011

Background

Based on a proposal from Norway, the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 78, May 2004) approved a new work programme item:

“Development of international regulations for gas-fuelled ships”

The Sub-Committee on Bulk Liquid and Gases commenced the development at its 8th session (BLG 8, 2004) and established a correspondence group under the co-ordination of Norway to further progress the work
Progress

BLG 9 (2005) decided a two step approach:


BLG 13 (2009) agreed to the draft Interim guidelines on safety for natural gas-fuelled engine installations in ships.

MSC 86 (2009) approved “Interim guidelines on safety for natural gas-fuelled engine installation in ships”.

IGF Code

BLG 14 (2010) further developed the Draft IGF Code and agreed to ask MSC for an extension of the scope to also cover other gases and low flash-point fuels.

MSC 87 (2010) agreed to the extension of the scope.

BLG 15 (2011) further developed the Draft IGF Code and preliminary agreed to include the following gases and low flash-point fuels:
Fuels

- BLG 15 (2011) further developed the Draft IGF Code and preliminary agreed to include the following gases and low flash-point fuels:
  - Natural gas, liquid and compressed
  - Propane, liquid and compressed
  - Butane (i and n), liquid
  - Propane/Butane mixtures, liquid
  - Ethyl alcohol, liquid
  - Methyl alcohol, liquid
  - Hydrogen, liquid and compressed
  - Dimethyl-ether, liquid

Content of the Code

The Draft IGF Code is currently planned to address safety measures for the following:
- Material and pipe design
- Power Generation [including propulsion and other energy converters]
- Fuel storage
- Fuel supply to consumers
- Refuelling
- Ship design and arrangement
- Fire safety
- Explosion protection
- Ventilation
- Electrical installations
- Control monitoring and safety systems
- Alternative design
- Manufacture, workmanship and testing
- Operational and training requirements
Work plan

2012 BLG 16
• Established a correspondence group to further develop the draft IGF Code

2013 BLG 17
• Establish a working/drafting group to finalize the IGF Code
• Submission of the draft IGF Code to other relevant sub-committees for comments

2014 BLG 18
• Establish a drafting group to incorporate comments from other sub-committees and make the necessary editorial and clarification changes
• Submission of the draft IGF Code to the MSC and the MEPC with a view to approval

2014 MSC 93 and MEPC 66
• Adoption

Some challenges

• Location of fuel tanks
• Alignment with the revised IGC-Code
• Level of details
• Limitations regarding EDS protected machinery spaces.
• Structure of the Code
Thank you for the attention