ABS™

MODU CODE



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Chapter 6: Machinery Installations – Emergency Shutdown (ESD) Clarification

The MODU Code did not previously address emergency shutdown (ESD) systems arranged with multiple levels of ESD. Clarification was needed as to whether the term "after shutdown" in paragraph 6.5.5 of the 2009 MODU Code relates to any single ESD level or to the total shutdown level of the unit.

Following finalization by the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC 12), MSC 111 adopted amendments to Chapter 6 of the 2009 MODU Code clarifying requirements for electrical equipment that must remain operational after an emergency shutdown.

The amendments provide that at least the following facilities should be operable after an emergency shutdown:

- Emergency lighting under paragraphs 5.4.6.1.1 to 5.4.6.1.4 for half an hour
- Blow-out preventer control system
- General alarm system
- Public address system
- Battery-supplied radiocommunication installations

The amendments also contain provisions for selective disconnection to enable the isolation of ignition sources on the basis of shipboard location, system, or function. Equipment which continues to operate after each stage of ESD located in open areas or within unprotected spaces should be suitable for installation in zone 2 locations, and equipment in enclosed spaces should be arranged with appropriate mitigating measures.

Effective Date: Applicable to units constructed on or after 1 January 2027

Source: MSC 111 adopted Resolution on Amendments to Chapter 6 of the 2009 MODU Code (May 2026)



Spring 2023

Chapter 11: Radiocommunications

In the MODU Code, amendments were made reflecting updated radiocommunication requirements per amendments to SOLAS Chapter IV and the modernization of the global maritime distress and safety system (GMDSS).

These revisions were necessary to reflect the essential use of the latest equipment and practices of the GMDSS.

Effective Date: 1 January 2024

Sources: MSC.504(105), MSC.505(105), and MSC.506(105)



Chapter 11: Radiocommunications

Updates apply to 1979, 1989 and 2009 IMO MODU Code editions (as amended). The 1979 and 1989 MODU Code editions were revised to refer to the 2009 MODU Code for all radiocommunication facility requirements, including those related to life-saving appliances.

For the 2009 MODU Code edition, a complete replacement of Chapter 11: Radiocommunication and Navigation, was provided.

The chapter has been revised to reflect:

- Updated terminology for modern radiocommunication equipment
- Inclusion of radio life-saving appliance requirements
- Numerous updated radio equipment performance standards

Effective Date: 1 January 2024

Sources: MSC.504(105), MSC.505(105), and MSC.506(105)



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