

# Cruise Ship NCOE Recommended Practice



## RP-01: Best Practice for Documenting Storage of Combustibles in Prohibited Spaces

Revision Date: February 28, 2022

### Reference: 74 SOLAS 20 II-2/9.2.2.3.2.2

“For determining the appropriate fire integrity standards to be applied to boundaries between adjacent spaces, such spaces are classified according to their fire risk as shown in categories (1) to (14). Where the contents and use of a space are such that there is a doubt as to its classification for the purpose of this regulation, or where it is possible to assign two or more classifications to a space, it shall be treated as a space within the relevant category having the most stringent boundary requirements.”

**Discussion:** Fire integrity of boundaries is assigned based on the fire risk within the space. In spaces where fire integrity of bulkheads and decks is less stringent because of less fire risk within the space, PSCOs should not expect to see storage of combustibles or flammable liquids. A category (10) space is the one space defined in SOLAS where storage of combustibles is explicitly prohibited. As such, category (10) A/C machinery spaces and electrical lockers are most commonly identified for noncompliance by PSCOs.

**Best Practice for Documenting Noncompliance:** PSCOs that observe storage of combustibles in a prohibited space should document the type of combustibles stored in the space (i.e., cardboard boxes) and the space identification by type, deck, and zone number. Additionally, PSCOs should take a picture of the stored combustibles and ask their escort to have the space categorization plan ready for review after the exam walkthrough. The PSCO should review the ship’s space categorization plan to determine the category of the noted space. If the space is identified as a category (10) space, then the observation should be recorded as a deficiency. If the space is identified as another category where combustibles are not prohibited, then the observation should not be recorded. The proper way to document noncompliance for this item is as follows:

Vessel System: 07 – Fire Safety

Vessel SubSystem: N/A – No Subsystem

Vessel Component: 07101 – Fire prevention structural integrity

Deficiency Cite<sup>1</sup>: 74 SOLAS 20 II-2/9.2.2.3.2.2

Example:

No.	Code	Description	Cite ( <i>Convention</i> )	Action Taken
1	07101	Spaces are classified according to their fire risk as shown in categories (1) to (14). A/C machinery space on port side deck 8, MVZ 3 is a category (10) space where storage of combustibles is prohibited. PSCO observed storage of cardboard boxes containing A/C filters.	74 SOLAS 20 II-2/9.2.2.3.2.2	10c

<sup>1</sup> The 20 December 2022 Version of the Scorecard does not include this cite, so it must be entered manually.