

DMA Circular no. 035

Temporary extension period for acquiring portable CO₂ gas detection devices revised recommendations for entering enclosed spaces aboard ships.

Reference to relevant regulation(s)

- MSC.581(110) Revised recommendations for entering enclosed spaces aboard ships
- Order no. 472 of 22 May 2026 on the Construction and Equipment of ships, etc., implementing the International Convention on Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974.

Background

Resolution MSC.581(110) “Revised recommendations for entering enclosed spaces aboard ships” was adopted by MSC on 27 June 2025, and entered into force internationally on 3 December 2025 after endorsement by Assembly 34.

MSC.581(110) was implemented within Danish legislation on 1 July 2026 through “Order no. 472 of 22 May 2026 on the Construction and Equipment of ships, etc., implementing the International Convention on Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974.

However, the Danish Maritime Authority has been made aware that some of the equipment required to comply with the revised recommendations remains subject to limited availability globally and prolonged delivery times. Especially portable devices for testing of CO₂.

In view of these exceptional circumstances, the Danish Maritime Authority has decided to grant an extension valid until 1 December 2026 for acquiring the required portable CO₂ gas detection devices.

Recognized Organizations acting on behalf of the Danish Maritime Authority and Port State Control Officers should not record a deficiency solely on the basis that the equipment required under resolution MSC.581(110) has not yet been procured or installed.

This temporary enforcement policy is intended solely to address the continued limited availability of the required equipment and shall not be interpreted as a relaxation of the safety requirements established by resolution MSC.581(110). All other elements of the revised recommendations shall be implemented and fulfilled.

Shipowners are expected to procure and install the required equipment as soon as practicable and, in any event, no later than 1 December 2026.

This RO Circular will cease to be valid after 1 December 2026.

Instructions to RO and PSC

This circular is issued in the interim to offer instructions to PSC inspectors and RO surveyors going onboard Danish flagged vessels.

Port State Control Officers are welcome to contact the Danish Maritime Authority if any questions or remarks to the above.