



**TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 906 of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	<b>Fixed Fire Detection and Fire Alarm Systems</b>
Reference	FSS Code Chapter 9

**Amendments to FSS Code Chapter 9 - Fixed Fire Detection and Fire Alarm Systems**

As per MSC.555(108), the specifications of fixed fire detection and fire alarm systems have been amended to include requirements for linear heat detectors, positioning of detectors and system control requirements such as visual and audible fire signals, in accordance with the amendments of SOLAS Chapter II-2. These specifications apply to ships constructed on or after 1 January 2026.

Linear heat detectors shall be tested according to standards EN 54-22:2015 and IEC 60092-504. Alternative testing standards may be used as determined by the Administration.

- The maximum spacing of detectors shall be in accordance with the table below: Table 2:  

Detectors spacing	Type of detector	Maximum floor area per detector (m <sup>2</sup> )	Maximum distance apart between centers (m)	Maximum distance away from bulkheads (m)
Heat	37	9	Smoke	74
11	4.5	Combined smoke & heat	5.5	74
9	4.5			
- The Administration may require or permit alternative spacing based on test data demonstrating detector characteristics. Detectors below movable ro-ro decks shall comply with the above spacing requirements.
- Linear heat detection system sensor cables shall be spaced maximum 9.0m apart, with maximum 4.5 m distance from bulkhead
- For Ro-Ro Passenger ships constructed on or after 1 January 2026:
  - o Alarm notifications shall follow a consistent alarm presentation scheme (wording, vocabulary, color and position). Alarms should be immediately recognizable on the navigation bridge and shall not be compromised by noise or poor placement.
  - o The interface shall provide alarm addressability, enable identification of alarm history and most recent alarms by the crew, and allow alarm suppression while ensuring alarms with ongoing trigger conditions remain clearly visible.
  - o Smoke detector function in special category and ro-ro spaces may be disconnected during vehicle loading/unloading. Disconnection time shall match loading/unloading duration and automatically reset. The central unit shall indicate disconnection status. Heat detection function and manual call point disconnection are not permitted.

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REFERENCE:  
- SOLAS Chapter II-2.

ATTACHMENTS: No.

Kindest Regards,  
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