



Luxembourg, 12th April 2016

Circular CAM 04/2016

To : All accredited shipping managers and DPAs

O/Ref : AH/107186

Manual Blocking of Quick Closing Valves

Please be advised that the practice of blocking quick closing valves during maneuvering is not in accordance with the requirements of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and defeats the purpose of the Quick Closing Valves.

Port State Control officers who, during an inspection, find these valves blocked open, thus preventing automatic closure in an emergency situation, will most certainly **detain the vessels presenting this condition.**

This administration requests all concerned parties to ensure that these valves are not blocked preventing the automatic operations and reducing the safety of the vessel. **It is critical that vessel crew ensure that these valves are not blocked open.**

This circular should be of interest to shipowners, managers, masters and officers. Accredited shipping managers are kindly requested to make sure that this circular is properly distributed to the respective staffs or companies intervening in the management of the ships.



(s) Robert BIWER
Government Commissioner
for maritime affairs