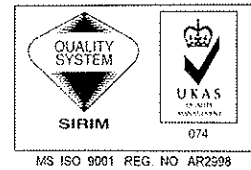


SCM

SHIPS CLASSIFICATION MALAYSIA



NO.1/2008

SCM CIRCULAR

08 January 2008

CIRCULAR TO SHIP OWNERS, MASTERS, AGENTS AND ALL RELEVANT PARTIES.

MAPROL ANNEX IV – Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships.

Attention is drawn to owners and operators of vessels above 400 GT and vessels less than 400 GT carrying more than 15 persons in particular those that operate in Singapore. Note that implementation dates and requirements may differ from other flag states.

The revised MRPOL Annex IV contains a set of regulations regarding the discharge of sewage into the sea, ship's equipment and systems for the control of sewage discharge, and requirements for survey and certification.

Under the revised Annex IV, the discharge of sewage into the sea will be prohibited, except when the ship has in operation an approved sewage treatment plant or is discharging comminuted and disinfected sewage using an approved system at a distance of more than three nautical miles from the nearest land. If the sewage is not comminuted or disinfected it is required to be discharged at a distance of more than 12 nautical miles from the nearest land.

The revised Annex will apply to new ships engaged in international voyages, of 400 gross tonnage (instead of 200 gross tonnage required by the previous Annex IV) and above or which are certified to carry more than 15 persons (instead of 10 persons prescribed by previous Annex IV).

Existing ships will be required to comply with the provisions of the revised Annex IV by 27 Sep 2008. A copy of the revised MRPOL Annex IV is attached.

For your guidance owners of effected existing vessels will have to comply with any one of the following options by 27 September 2008:

- 1 to install a type approved sewage treatment plant, OR
- 2 to install a type approved sewage comminuting and disinfecting system so that treated sewage may be discharged at a distance of more than 3 nautical miles from the nearest land, OR
- 3 to install a class approved holding tank having a suitable capacity for the retention of sewage onboard which may be discharged at a distance of more than 12 nautical miles from the nearest land, the discharge shall not be instantaneous but at a moderate rate with the vessel proceeding en route at not less than 4 knots. The said holding tank shall have means to visually indicate the amount of its contents, AND
- 4 a standard discharge connection complying with Reg.10 of MARPOL Annex IV

We foresee that option 3 will be the most practical solution for existing ships and many owners will pick this option. Owners are therefore advised to engage the relevant parties to prepare the drawings for submission to SCM for approval prior to installation of the holding tanks or treatment plants whichever the case may be. Please take early action as all effected vessel must be issued with a Document of Compliance for MARPOL Annex IV by 27 September 2008 if they are to trade in Singapore.



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Att 1: resolution MEPC 115(51) MARPOL Annex IV

Att 2: Extract from Prevention of Pollution regulation (Sewage) Regs. 2005 (Singapore)

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