
MARPOL - Forthcoming Amendments to MARPOL Annex IV - Sewage and MARPOL Annex V Garbage

Notice to all Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Builders, Ship Repairers, Certifying Authorities, Masters and Ships' Officers.

This note replaces MIN 436

This MIN expires September 2013.

Summary

This note draws attention to the new International requirements effective from 1 January 2013 for MARPOL Annex IV - Sewage and MARPOL Annex V - Garbage.

Introduction

1. On the 1st July 2012 the International Maritime Organization (IMO) accepted amendments to:
 - MARPOL Annex IV – Sewage by Resolution MEPC.200(62) AMENDMENTS TO THE ANNEX OF THE PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973 Special Area Provisions and the Designation of the Baltic Sea as a Special Area under MARPOL Annex IV.
 - MARPOL Annex V – Garbage Resolution MEPC.201(62) AMENDMENTS TO THE ANNEX OF THE PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973 Revised MARPOL Annex V.
2. The associated guidelines for MARPOL Annex IV – 2012 GUIDELINES ON IMPLEMENTATION OF EFFLUENT STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE TESTS FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS, are still under development at the IMO and it is expected that these Guidelines will be adopted at MEPC 64 in October 2012.
3. The associated Guidelines for MARPOL Annex V - 2012 GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MARPOL ANNEX V, were adopted at MEPC 63 in March 2012 and have been issued as Resolution MEPC.219 (63).

Reason for Amendment

4. MARPOL Annex IV – Sewage has been revised to provide a higher level of protection against sewage pollution which can be applied in Special Areas. The amendments introduce:
 - Concept of Special Areas
 - Designation of 'the Baltic Sea' as a Special Area
 - Provisions to apply to Passenger Ships
5. MARPOL Annex V Garbage has been revised to strengthen the current provisions so to continue to reduce pollution caused by garbage. The amendments introduce:
 - Prohibition with limited discharge exceptions
 - Additional garbage types
 - Different requirements in respect of discharge conditions
 - Reporting
6. Further details of all the amendments can be found in the Resolutions quoted in paragraphs 1 to 3 above.

Date of Application

7. The amendments to MARPOL Annex IV - Sewage and MARPOL Annex V Garbage come into effect internationally from the 1 January 2013.
8. MARPOL Annex IV has specific coming into force dates dependent upon the provision applied and you should consult Resolution MEPC200.(62) to establish these dates.

UK Regulations

9. The Maritime and Coastguard Agency are currently developing the regulations and associated Guidelines which will bring the international standards in to UK law.
10. Work is currently being undertaken to update the Garbage Record Book (GRB) to facilitate recording of the updated requirements to MARPOL Annex V. It is anticipated that this will be published and available by late October 2012.
11. Only GRBs in the correct updated format may be used from 1 January 2013 and all existing GRBs in use should be closed out and retained onboard for a period of at least two years from the date of the last entry made in it. Revised GRBs will be available from the Stationery Office using the following ISBN: 9780115532443.

More Information

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