



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

The Merchant Shipping (Dangerous or Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk) Regulations 1996

MARPOL Surveyors

Notice to all Shippers, Masters, Agents, Ship Owners and MARPOL Surveyors

This notice replaces MIN 183 (M)

This MIN expires 31 December 2007

PLEASE NOTE:-

Where this document provides guidance on the law it should not be regarded as definitive. The way the law applies to any particular case can vary according to circumstances - for example, from vessel to vessel and you should consider seeking independent legal advice if you are unsure of your own legal position.

Summary

This note provides details on how to obtain the current list of approved MARPOL Surveyors as required by the Merchant Shipping (Dangerous or Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk) Regulations 1996.

Key Points:-

- A list of MARPOL Surveyors authorised by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency to carry out duties in compliance with the above regulations is now published on our website - http://www.mcga.gov.uk/c4mca/mcga-safety_information/mcga-dangerous.goods.htm
- A brief description of the duties of a MARPOL Surveyor is set out below. More detailed information is provided on appointment.
- Approved MARPOL surveyors are expected to provide returns (including nil returns) on a six-monthly basis.
- Any changes to the list should be notified to the address at the bottom of page 4 of this MIN.

1. The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL 73/78) Annex II, Regulation 8 requires the Government of each party within the convention to appoint or authorise surveyors for the purposes of exercising control procedures developed by the International Maritime Organisation.

The Merchant Shipping (Dangerous or Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk) Regulations 1996 (S.I. 1996/3010, as amended by S.I. 1998/1153) implements Annex II of MARPOL 73/78 and refers to such surveyors in Regulation 9(2).

2. Marine Surveyors of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) do not normally act as MARPOL Surveyors. The Agency has officially appointed suitably qualified persons to act in this capacity. A list of those appointed, with their contact details can be found on the MCA website as detailed above.
3. Marine Surveyors of the MCA hold greater powers than those of appointed MARPOL Surveyors and are responsible for all control measures other than those set out in paragraph 4 of this Marine Information Note. They also retain responsibility for ship inspections and investigations regarding contravention of the Regulations. Where necessary, the Surveyor in Charge at the local Marine Office of the MCA should initially be contacted.
4. **Duties of the MARPOL Surveyor**

A MARPOL Surveyor will only attend if required by a ship owner or his agent. The duties of a MARPOL Surveyor are briefly:

- a. To attend the completion of the unloading of all Category X substances and verify that the pre-wash has been conducted.
- b. To attend where the unloading of Category Y and Z substances cannot be carried out in accordance with the ship's Procedures and Arrangements Manual.
- c. To attend vessels, such as "offshore supply vessels," and verify that cargo tanks which have contained noxious liquid substances of pollution category X, Y or Z have been cleaned and the residues and washings have been put ashore to port waste reception facilities in accordance with the Procedures and Arrangements Manual.
- d. To exempt ships from the requirements of paragraphs Regulation 13 of MARPOL II 73/78, as amended, in accordance with Regulation 13.5.4 of MARPOL ANNEX II, Exemption for a pre-wash.
- e. To endorse each ship's Cargo Record Book.
- f. To provide prompt and accurate returns, **including nil returns, every six months**. The Returns Form is available online at the web address given on page 1 of this document.

5. **Surveyor Operations**

When attending a vessel the MARPOL Surveyor should be supervised at all times by a responsible ships officer, who is involved in cargo operations. The responsible ships officer should be present when any cargo sampling is carried out. He should be fully conversant with all aspects of the ship's sampling system including the operational characteristics of the valves.

The responsible ships officer should satisfy themselves that the sampling equipment is compatible with the ship's sampling points before starting any sampling.

The surveyor should only take samples from a designated sample point, as indicated by the ships officer.

The sampling operations are to be conducted in a safe and efficient manner which will preclude any escape of cargo liquid or vapours to the atmosphere or the deck of the ship beyond that required by the sampling process. Any spillage is to be cleaned up immediately

The Surveyor should not be left unattended whilst taking samples.

6. **Fees for Undertaking MARPOL Surveyor Duties**

MARPOL Surveyors may charge for their services. The amount of such charges should be fixed by agreement between the Ship's Master and Surveyor.

7. **Annual Registration Of MARPOL Surveyors**

MARPOL Surveyors must re-register with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency on an annual basis in order for the Authorisation to remain valid. It is the responsibility of the employing company to ensure that details of all authorised MARPOL Surveyors are communicated to the MCA in the period from 1st to 31st October of each year. Failure to do so will result in the removal of the company and associated Surveyors from the List of Authorised MARPOL Surveyors. Re-registration should be undertaken using the form found on the website:

http://www.mcga.gov.uk/c4mca/mcga-safety_information/mcga-dangerous.goods.htm

8. **Updating MARPOL Surveyors Information**

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency should be informed, at the address given at the bottom of page 4 of this MIN, of any changes to the MARPOL Surveyor List. This includes changes to the primary contact, address details or the addition or loss of MARPOL surveyors to the company listed. Companies should not wait until the annual re-registration to inform the MCA of any changes.

MARPOL Surveyors must inform the Maritime and Coastguard Agency if they change employee as this requires a new authorisation to be issued. Amendments of this kind may be charged at the current hourly rate. Failure to inform the Maritime and Coastguard Agency of any such changes will result in MARPOL Surveyor Authorisation becoming invalid.

9. **Future Appointments**

Any application for appointment as a MARPOL Surveyor should be made to the address shown at the bottom of page 4 of this Note. Upon receipt of an enquiry regarding an application for Authorisation the MCA will send details of the information required. The MCA charges a fee to offset the costs incurred in processing these applications. The fee will be calculated on the basis of an hourly rate, which is currently set at £94 but is subject to change.

More Information

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