

PART A

CHAPTER 16

SEWAGE POLLUTION PREVENTION CERTIFICATE

16.1 Legal Requirements

16.1.1 The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage and Garbage from Ships) Regulations 2008, SI 2008/3257, as amended, with MSN 1807 (M+F), implement MARPOL Annex IV. Survey is required if the ship is over 400 GT or is certified to carry more than 15 persons to sea on international voyages (regulation 6).

16.2 Definitions

16.2.1 Definitions of terms relating to sewage pollution prevention and surveys related to the issuance of a Sewage Pollution Prevention Certificate are described in SI 2008/3257, as amended.

16.2.2 'Certified' in relation to a ship, means certified in accordance with the Merchant Shipping (Survey and Certification) Regulations 2015, therefore the regulations do not apply to all commercial ships.

16.3 Responsibility

16.3.1 Surveys are normally conducted by Class surveyors for classed ships and MCA for un-classed ships.

16.4 Surveys Required

16.4.1 The Harmonised System of Survey and Certification (HSSC) applies. Ships are required by regulations 7 and 8 to be subjected to the following surveys :-

- an **Initial Survey**,
- a **Renewal Survey**,
- **An additional survey**, either general or partial, according to the circumstances, shall be carried out after a repair resulting from investigations referred to in regulation 9(5) of SI 2008/3257 as amended has been made to the ship, or where an important repair or renewal has been made to the ship. The survey shall be such as to ensure that the necessary repairs or renewals have been effectively made, that the material and workmanship of such repairs or renewals are in all respects satisfactory and that the ship complies in all respects with the requirements of applicable regulations.

16.5 Pre-survey Actions

16.5.1 The following items shall be checked prior to commencing the survey:

- SIAS
- MCA Survey Files
- Exemption Certificates
- New Legislative requirements
- Class Survey Status (via password protected websites)
- PSC Inspection history

Remarks from previous surveys and outstanding deficiencies must be resolved to the satisfaction of the surveyor before the issue of the Sewage Pollution Prevention Certificate.

16.5.2 The surveyor/s should ensure that sufficient time will be available for the survey and should liaise with owners beforehand, noting that various options may be available such as more time in port, sailing with the ship for suitable short voyages, providing more than one surveyor and so on.

16.5.3 Where work is to be carried out on behalf of another administration a written request must be obtained from that administration requesting the MCA to carry out the work on their behalf. For REG ships fees are charged at the wider market rate (see Part C Ch2.3).

16.5.4 Surveys should only be commenced on receipt of a completed "Application for Survey" form (MSF 5100) and after sufficient fees have been received. Further guidance on fees is described in Part C, Chapter 2 of these instructions.

16.5.5 The relevant Business Support Unit administration team processes the application. CERS/SVD must be interrogated to ensure that the correct ship is on the system; if the vessel is not yet on the system (e.g. newbuild, flag-in), the Administrator (TST) should be contacted, who will check the details and arrange for the vessel to be added to the Single Vessel Database (SVD) if appropriate. A "Survey Works Order" is produced which is then tracked for charter standard purposes. This is then passed to the Manager, or other person nominated by them, who then appoints the Lead Surveyor (LS) for the survey.

16.6 Items to be surveyed

16.6.1 The survey is to be carried out using the relevant instructions, guidance notes and HQ advice, which may be found on MLD/SCMS. Surveyors should be mindful of their own health and safety during surveys and take account of all guidance provided by MCA as well as their professional judgement in relation to the prevailing circumstances.

16.6.2 Items to be surveyed are those in Part 3 of the regulations and include any sewage treatment plant, holding tank or other means to deal with sewage produced on board together with any discharge records.

16.6.3 *Aide memoire* MSF 5553 lists items to be surveyed and is available on the Master List of Documents and SCMS library.

16.7 Post Survey Actions

16.7.1 Deficiencies

16.7.1.1 The lead surveyor is responsible for recording and closing out any deficiencies found during the survey/s in the SIAS database, in accordance with the requirements of Part C Chapter 4 of these instructions.

16.7.2 Declaration and Certificates

16.7.2.1 The requirements relating to the issue of certificates, i.e. type, format, extension, cancellation, issuing authority etc., are given in regulations 7 to 20 inclusive of the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage and Garbage from Ships) Regulations 2008, as amended.

16.7.2.2 On completion of a survey, the lead surveyor prepares the certificate, following the guidance in Part C Chapter 3 of these instructions.

16.7.2.3 When satisfactory surveys have been completed an **International Sewage Pollution Prevention Certificate** (MSF 3222), valid for a period not exceeding 5 years, should be issued.

16.7.3 Review of Exemptions

16.7.3.1 Any exemption or equivalents must be reviewed to ensure they are still current and that the qualifying conditions are complied with. Guidance on exemptions and equivalents are described in Part B Chapter 4 of these instructions.

16.7.4 Documentation and Records

16.7.4.1 The table below describes the minimum documents to be completed and filed following a survey.

Item	Record
Record on SIAS?	Yes MSF 1602/3 survey & inspection deficiencies
Place copy on registered file, CM.../35/08?	Yes Sewage Pollution Prevention Cert Declaration MSF 1602/3

	Completed aide memoire if it contains additional information. Relevant test reports/ results, drawings and photographs Exemptions
Minute required on registered file?	Yes
Report Class Related deficiency to Survey Operations Branch?	Yes, if applicable MSF 1923

16.7.5 Fees

16.7.5.1 The **Survey Works Order** must be closed out and sent to the relevant Business Support Unit so that fee accounts may be balanced and relevant refunds made to the customer.

16.8 Flow Chart (If helpful)

None

16.9 Special Instructions and Guidance

None.

16.10 References

16.10.1 Additional advice can be found in the Instructions for the Guidance of Surveyors on 'Prevention of Pollution by Sewage and Garbage from Ships'.

Author	S Ireland	Branch	Survey Operations
Approved by	S Roberts	Branch	Survey Operations
Authorised by	P Coley	Branch	Technical Performance