	MARITIME AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA ASBESTOS INSPECTIONS	Circular No.	12/04/07	
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TO:


- (I) ALL OWNERS OF JAMAICAN SHIPS
- (II) MANAGERS AND OPERATORS OF JAMAICAN SHIPS

1. **Subject – PORT STATE CONTROL – ASBESTOS INSPECTIONS IN**
2. **DUTCH PORTS**

References (a) SOLAS Reg. II - 1/3-5
(b) MSC.1/Circ.1374- 3.3

The Maritime Authority of Jamaica is hereby advising that the Shipping Department of the Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate (ILT/Scheepvaart) has announced that it will carry out asbestos inspections of foreign ships in Dutch ports, beginning in the 3rd/4th quarter of 2012. These inspections will check compliance with the SOLAS Convention asbestos regulations detailed in the IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1374 and will take place during regular port State control (PSC) inspections.


PSC inspectors will be accompanied by an expert from an asbestos company who will take samples where necessary. These samples will be analyzed and, if asbestos is found, the ship will have to immediately contact the MAJ to request an exemption certificate in accordance with MSC.1/Circ.1374. If the ship departs before the results of the analysis are known, a report will be made in THETIS, the Paris MOU database, if the analysis showed asbestos to be present. If the ship visits a port within the Paris MOU region, a check will be made to see if the exemption certificate has been issued by the MAJ.

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Ships built before 1 July 2002 are allowed to have asbestos containing materials (ACMs) on board. However, the ACMs are only allowed as long as they do not pose a risk to the crew's health. The crew should be aware of the dangers of asbestos and should know how to deal with asbestos in case disturbance of the ACMs cannot be avoided. Refer to the Annex of MSC/Circ.1045, attached, on guidelines for maintenance and monitoring of on-board materials containing asbestos.

Since 1 July 2002 the new installation or use of ACMs on board sea-going vessels has been prohibited under SOLAS regulations II-1/3-5, except for use in some systems involving high temperatures and high pressure as specified in the aforementioned legislation.

From 1 January 2011, new installation of ACMs is prohibited without exception for all sea-going vessels, pursuant to the SOLAS regulations.

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