



MARITIME AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA

March 2006 amendments to MARPOL

Circular No.	07-08-10
Revision	00
Page(s)	1 of 2
Reference	

MARPOL regulation on oil fuel tank protection

The amendment to the revised MARPOL Annex I (which was adopted in October 2004 with entry into force set for 1 January 2007) includes a new regulation 12A on oil fuel tank protection. The regulation is intended to apply to all ships delivered on or after 1 August 2010 with an aggregate oil fuel capacity of 600m³ and above. It includes requirements for the protected location of the fuel tanks and performance standards for accidental oil fuel outflow. A maximum capacity limit of 2,500m³ per oil fuel tank is included in the regulation, which also requires Administrations to consider general safety aspects, including the need for maintenance and inspection of wing and double-bottom tanks or spaces, when approving the design and construction of ships in accordance with the regulation. Consequential amendments to the IOPP Certificate were also adopted.

The MEPC also agreed to include appropriate text referring to the new regulation in the amendments to the *Guidelines for the application of the revised MARPOL Annex I requirements to FPSOs and FSUs* and approved a Unified Interpretation on the application of the regulation to column-stabilized MODUs.

Definition of heavy grade oil

A further amendment to the revised MARPOL Annex I relates to the definition of "heavy grade oil" in regulation 21 on *Prevention of oil pollution from oil tankers carrying heavy grade oil as cargo*, replacing the words "fuel oils" with "oils, other than crude oils", thereby broadening the scope of the regulation.

MARPOL Annex IV amendments

The amendment to MARPOL Annex IV *Prevention of pollution by sewage from ships* adds a new regulation 13 on *Port State control on operational requirements*. The regulation states that a ship, when in a port or an offshore terminal of another Party, is subject to inspection by officers duly authorized by such Party concerning operational requirements under the Annex, where there are clear grounds for believing that the master or crew are not familiar with essential shipboard procedures relating to the prevention of pollution by sewage.

Amendments to BCH Code

Amendments to the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (BCH Code) were adopted as a consequence of the revised Annex II of MARPOL 73/78 and the amended International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code), which are expected to enter into force on 1 January 2007. The MEPC also adopted a resolution on *Early and Effective Application of the 2006 amendments to the BCH Code* to invite MARPOL Parties to consider the



MARITIME AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA

March 2006 amendments to MARPOL

Circular No.	07-08-10
Revision	00
Page(s)	2 of 2
Reference	

application of the amendments to the BCH Code, as soon as practically possible, to ships entitled to fly their flag.

Also adopted were the revised *Guidelines for the provisional assessment of liquids transported in bulk*. In this context the Committee urged industry, in particular the chemical industry, to provide information on the revision of List 2 of the MEPC circular which contains pollutant-only mixtures based on section 5 of the revised Guidelines.

**Maritime Authority of Jamaica
4th Floor, Dyll Building
40 Knutsford Boulevard
Kingston 5**

**+ 876 754-7260/65
+876 754-7256**

**E-mail: maj@jamaicaships.com
Website: www.jamaicaships.com**