



## 香 港 商 船 資 訊

## HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

**Amendments to Annex III of MARPOL 73/78**

To : *Shipowners, Ship Managers, Operators, Masters, Officers and Classification Societies*

***Summary***

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned of the Revised Annex III of MARPOL 73/78 that will enter into force internationally on ***1 January 2010***.

1. The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) at its 55<sup>th</sup> session in October 2006 adopted, by resolution MEPC.156 (55), the amendments to the Annex III of MARPOL 73/78 - "Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Harmful Substances Carried by Sea in Packaged Form". The Revised MARPOL Annex III will come into force internationally on ***1 January 2010***.
2. The revised Annex III maintains the structure of the existing MARPOL Annex III and the use of the term "Marine Pollutants". Changes are made to Regulation 1 on "Application" and Regulation 4 on "Documentation" relating to stopover loading and unloading operations.
3. Criteria for the identification of harmful substances in packaged form are given in the Appendix of the revised Annex III. Under the revised Annex III, harmful substances are identified by one of the new categories, namely: Acute 1, Chronic 1 and Chronic 2.
4. The revised Annex III is applicable to all ships (i.e. sea-going and local vessels) carrying harmful substances in packaged form. Ship operators shall make available a document listing the harmful substances taken on board, indicating their location on board or showing a detailed stowage plan to the port authority before departure if any loading or unloading operations, even partial, are carried out at any stopover. The document can be combined with manifest for dangerous goods provided that a clear distinction shall be made between dangerous goods and harmful substances.

5. Resolution MEPC.156 (55) can be downloaded from the Marine Department website (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>) under this Note.

6. Shipowners, Ship Managers, Operators, Masters, Officers and Classification Societies are advised to note and observe the amendments to the MARPOL Annex III.

Marine Department  
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