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HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

A Guide to diagnosing contaminants in oily bilge water to maintain, operate and troubleshoot bilge water treatment systems

To : Shipowners, Ship Managers and Shipmasters

Summary

This Note informs shipowners, ship managers and shipmasters that IMO has disseminated a Guide for what contaminants can enter the bilge and from what sources. The Guide also describes and provides recommended preventive and remedial or corrective measures.

1. The Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its 59th session held in July 2009 noted the view of the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment that the Guide to diagnosing contaminants in oily bilge water to maintain, operate and troubleshoot bilge water treatment systems developed by the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) could be an excellent tool to help engine room crew to comply with MARPOL requirements. The Guide is set out in the Annex to MEPC.1/Circ.677.
2. The information contained in the MEPC Circular should be regarded as a guide for all those dealing with operations and maintenance of oily water treatment systems in port or on board ships.
3. Owners, managers and shipmasters of Hong Kong registered ships are recommended to take note of the Guide and act appropriately.
4. The MEPC.1/Circ.677 can be found as an Annex to this Note on Marine Department website at "<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>".

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division

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