



香港商船通告

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE

Definition of "Oil"

To : *Shipowners, Masters, Agents and Classification Societies*

Summary

The purpose of this Notice is to list those petrochemicals that are excluded from the definition of oil, these being petrochemicals which are subject to the provisions of Annex II of the MARPOL Convention.

1. The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations came into force on 28 December 1984 and gives effect to the provisions of Annex I of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973, as modified by the 1978 Protocol relating thereto.

2. The main objective of Annex I and our domestic legislation is to eliminate the intentional pollution of the marine environment by oil and to minimize the accidental discharge of oil.

3. The definition of oil is thus of major importance when applying the above Regulations and the definition in section 2 of the Merchant Shipping (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Ordinance will be adopted. It reads as follows :

"Oil" means :-

- (a) petroleum in any form including crude oil, fuel oil, sludge, oil refuse and refined products (other than petrochemicals which are subject to the provisions of Annex II of the Convention as defined in section 3(1)); and
- (b) the substances listed in Appendix I to Annex I of the Convention.

4. The petrochemicals which are excluded from the definition of "oil" are those petrochemicals which are subject to the provisions of Annex II of the MARPOL Convention.

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division

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