

MARINE DEPARTMENT NOTICE NO. 93 OF 2015

(Statutory Requirements)

Prevention of Pollution by Garbage from Ships

This Notice serves to inform that the existing Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage) Regulation (Cap 413J) will be replaced by a new Regulation, namely, the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage) Regulation (Cap 413O) giving effect to the latest requirements of the MARPOL Annex V -- Prevention of Pollution by Garbage from Ships. Cap 413O will come into operation on 1 July 2015 and apply to ships within Hong Kong waters and Hong Kong registered ships wherever they are. Details of Cap 413O can be found from the website - <http://www.legislation.gov.hk/eng/home.htm>.^{*}

2. Amongst others, ships are required to comply with the following requirements under Cap 413O:

2.1 the discharge of any garbage from a ship within Hong Kong waters is prohibited except cargo hold, deck and external surfaces wash water which does not contain cleaning agents and additives harmful to the marine environment;

2.2 a ship of 12 metres or more in length overall must display a Garbage Discharge Placard (GDP) onboard to notify crew and passengers of the garbage discharge requirements. Owners/operators of local vessels may make reference to the template of the GDP in Appendix 1 to prepare their GDPs. Other owners/operators should prepare their GDPs in accordance with the guidelines in the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Resolution MEPC.219(63);

2.3 a ship, which is :

- (i) of 100 gross tonnage or above; or
- (ii) certified to carry 15 or more persons

must have onboard a Garbage Management Plan (GMP). The GMP must provide written procedures for minimizing, collecting, storing, processing and

disposing of garbage. Owners/operators of local vessels may make reference to the template of the GMP in Appendix 2 to prepare their GMPs. Other owners/operators must prepare their GMPs in accordance with the guidelines in the IMO Resolution MEPC.220(63); and

2.4 a ship, which is :

- (i) of 400 GT or above and is certified to carry less than 15 persons;
- (ii) of 400 GT or above, certified to carry 15 or more persons and engaged in a voyage of more than one hour in duration;

must have onboard a Garbage Record Book (GRB) to record the handling of shipboard garbage. Each discharge of garbage into the sea or to a reception facility must be recorded in the GRB and signed by the person in charge of the discharge on the date of the discharge. Each completed page of the GRB shall be signed by the coxswain of a local vessel, or the master of other vessels. The GRB can be purchased from the Marine Department on the 3/F of Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong or order online from the Government Bookstore – <http://www.isd.gov.hk/eng/bookorder.htm>.

3. The details of the aforementioned IMO Resolutions can be found on the website of the Marine Department (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/notices/notices.html>) as attachments to this Notice. Masters, coxswains, owners/operators of ships are required to observe and comply with the requirements of Cap 413O.

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Director of Marine

Marine Department
Government of the HKSAR
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Action files ref: L/M No.12/2015 in MP/E 511/5

* With effect from 1 July 2018, Hong Kong e-Legislation (HKeL) (<https://www.elegislation.gov.hk>) will be the only government legislation website. The previous Bilingual Laws Information System (<http://www.blis.gov.hk>) will be discontinued.

GARBAGE PLACARD FOR CREW AND PASSENGERS

The discharge of any garbage (including all plastic products and food wastes etc.) from a local vessel into the sea is prohibited except cleaning agents and additives which are not harmful to the marine environment contained in cargo hold, deck and external surfaces wash water.

Violation of the requirements may result in penalties.

All garbage should be placed in the bins provided onboard.

Garbage Management Plan

1. According to the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage) Regulation (Cap 413O), every local vessel of 100 GT or above; or every local vessel certified to carry 15 or more persons must have a Garbage Management Plan onboard.
2. The coxswain of a local vessel is the designated person in charge of carrying out the Garbage Management Plan. The coxswain should provide familiarization training to all crew members for collecting, storing and discharging of garbage to port reception facilities. All crew members should follow the instructions in this Garbage Management Plan.
3. All garbage must be kept onboard for proper discharge to port reception facilities. It must not be discharged into the sea while the vessel is within the waters of Hong Kong except cargo hold, deck and external surfaces wash water which does not contain cleaning agents and additives harmful to the marine environment.
4. Receptacles for garbage should be placed in appropriate locations onboard collecting and storing of garbage. The receptacles should be with lid to store garbage and be clearly marked for different types of garbage, such as, food wastes, plastic garbage and other non-plastic garbage.