



---

## Amendment to Regulation 43 of MARPOL Annex I

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

### *Summary*

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned of the IMO amendments to Annex I of the MARPOL 73/78 that is expected to enter into force internationally on 1 March 2016.

1. The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization at its 67<sup>th</sup> session in October 2014 has adopted, by Resolution MEPC.256(67), an amendment to regulation 43 Annex I to the MARPOL Convention. The amendment is expected to enter into force internationally on 1 March 2016.
2. The amendment aims to prohibit ships operating in the Antarctic area from carrying heavy grade oil on board as ballast.
3. The details of the related resolutions can be found on the website of Marine Department (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>) as attachment to this Note. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters and classification societies of Hong Kong registered ships are required to note the amendments and act accordingly.

Marine Department  
Multi-lateral Policy Division

29 December 2014