Amendments to MARPOL Annex VI (Procedures for sampling and verification of the sulphur content of fuel oil and the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI))

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned on the adoption of the amendments to MARPOL Annex VI concerning the procedures for sampling and verification of the sulphur content of fuel oil and Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) at the 75th session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The MEPC also approved guidelines for sampling of liquid fuel oil that being used, intended to be used or carried for use on board a ship.

1. The MEPC 75 adopted resolution MEPC.324(75) on 20 November 2020 to amend MARPOL Annex VI concerning the procedures for sampling and verification of the sulphur content of fuel oil and the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI). The amendments shall enter into force on 1 April 2022.

2. To promote the effective control and enforcement of the relevant provisions of MARPOL Annex VI, the MEPC approved the following guidelines which aim to establish agreed method for the sampling of liquid fuel oil that being used, intended to be used or carried for use on board a ship.

   • 2019 Guidelines for on board sampling for the verification of the sulphur content of the fuel oil used on board ships (MEPC.1/Circ.864/Rev.1); and

   • 2020 Guidelines for on board sampling of fuel oil intended to be used or carried for use on board a ship (MEPC.1/Circ.889).

3. A copy of the aforementioned resolution and circulars can be found on the website of Marine Department (https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html) as attachment to this Note.
4. Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters and Classification Societies are advised to note the information contained in the resolution and circulars.

5. Any enquiries in relation to this Merchant Shipping Information Note may be directed to the Senior Surveyor of the Maritime Policy Branch at telephone number 2852 4395 or by e-mail to “hkmpd@mardep.gov.hk”.

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