

MARINE DEPARTMENT NOTICE NO. 14/2020

(Statutory Requirements)

Implementation of the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) (Amendment) (No.2) Regulation 2019

This Notice informs the shipping industry that the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2019 (the “Amendment Regulation”) for incorporating the latest requirement of the Annex I to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships adopted by the International Maritime Organization under Resolution MEPC 266(68) has entered into force on 1 January 2020. Details of the Amendment Regulation are available on the following website:-

<https://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/20192341/es220192341127.pdf>

2. The Amendment Regulation requires ships constructed before 1 January 2017, which are of 400 gross tonnage and above, to comply with the requirement that oil residues (sludge) tank(s) shall have no discharge connections to the bilge system, oily bilge water holding tank(s), tank top or oily water separators, except that:

- (i) the tank(s) may be fitted with drains, with manually operated self-closing valves and arrangements for subsequent visual monitoring of the settled water that lead to an oily bilge water holding tank or bilge well; or an alternative arrangement provided that such arrangement does not connect directly to the bilge discharge piping system; and
- (ii) the sludge tank discharge piping and bilge-water piping may be connected to a common piping leading to the standard discharge connection; the connection of both systems to the possible common piping leading to the standard discharge connection shall not allow for the transfer of sludge to the bilge system.

3. If a ship constructed before 1 January 2017 has not been subject to a renewal survey during the period between 1 January 2017 and 1 January 2020, the ship must comply with the above requirement not later than the first renewal

survey of the ship which is conducted after 1 January 2020.

4. Masters, coxswains, owners/operators of ships are required to observe and comply with the Amendment Regulation. For enquiries, please contact Senior Surveyor of the Maritime Policy Branch by telephone number 2852 4395 or e-mail (hkmpd@mardep.gov.hk).

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Government of the HKSAR
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