



香 港 商 船 資 訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Amendments to Annex III of MARPOL 73/78

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned of the revised Annex III of MARPOL 73/78 on “marking and labelling”, “documentation” and “port state control on operational requirements” that will enter into force internationally on 1 January 2014.

1. The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization at its 61st session adopted the resolution MEPC.193 (61) to revise the Annex III of MARPOL 73/78 - “Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Harmful Substances Carried by Sea in Packaged Form”. The revised MARPOL Annex III applies to all ships carrying harmful substances in packaged form and will come into force internationally on 1 January 2014.
2. The revised MARPOL Annex III maintains the structure of the existing text of MARPOL Annex III and amendments have been made to Regulation 3 on “Marking and labelling”, Regulation 4 on “Documentation” and Regulation 8 on “Port State control on operational requirements” relating to stopover loading and unloading operations.
3. Criteria for the identification of harmful substances in packaged form are given in the Appendix to the revised MARPOL Annex III. Under the revised MARPOL Annex III, harmful substances in packaged form are identified by two criteria, namely by Acute (short-term) aquatic hazard or long-term aquatic hazard.

4. Ship operators shall make available a document listing the harmful substances in packaged form taken on board, indicating their location on board or showing a detailed stowage plan to the port authority before departure if any loading or unloading operations, even partial, are carried out at any stopover. The document can be combined with manifest for dangerous goods provided that a clear distinction shall be made between dangerous goods and harmful substances in packaged form.

5. The Resolution MEPC.193 (61) can be downloaded from the Marine Department website (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>) under this Note.

6. Shipowners, Ship Managers, Operators, Masters, Officers and Classification Societies are advised to note the amendments to the MARPOL Annex III and act accordingly.

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