

Circular 238/2020

To: Vessel Owners, Managers, Deputy Registrars and other interested parties.

Subject: South Korea – Designation of SOx Emission Control Areas (SECA) and Speed Reduction program.

Date: 4th September 2020

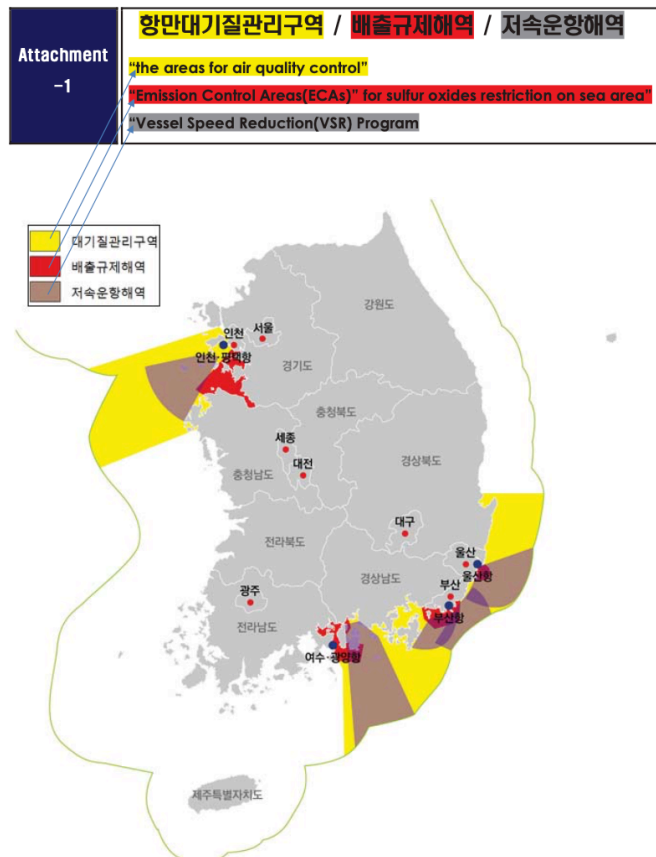
Summary

From 1st September 2020, a Sox Emission Control Area (SECA) will be implemented in selected seaports of South Korea:

- Incheon (including Gyeongin port)
- Pyeongtaek·Dangjin
- Yeosu·Gwangyang (including Hadong port)
- Busan
- Ulsan

As this is a National regulation, it does apply only within national waters boundaries (12 miles from the coast line)

(See below image for further details of the above applicable areas)



New sulphur fuel limits

Effective from 1 September 2020, all ships (including foreign-flagged vessels) berthed or at anchorage in the above SECAs must ensure that, one hour after mooring (or anchoring) and one hour before de-berthing (or heaving anchor), sulphur content of fuel oils used on board does not exceed 0.1% m/m (or an approved equivalent arrangement is used).

Effective from 1 January 2022, all ships (including foreign-flagged vessels) entering or leaving the SECAs must comply with the same 0.1% m/m sulphur fuel limit using the appropriate fuel oils (or approved equivalent arrangement).

Approved equivalent arrangement

The use of an exhaust gas cleaning system (EGCS) will be allowed as an equivalent arrangement if the EGCS is at least as effective in terms of SO_x emission reductions (4.3 SO₂(ppm)/CO₂ (% v/v)) as compared to using a fuel oil with sulphur content not exceeding 0.1% m/m and satisfies the criteria set by South Korea.

Recording requirements and fuel change over procedure

As per the other SECAs, ships operating inside the Korean SECA must record in the Engine Log Book:

- Kind of fuel oil and the date, time and position of the ship when fuel-oil-change-over operation is completed;
- The remaining volume of fuel oil in each tank (only applicable to fuel oil with sulphur content not exceeding 0.1% m/m); and
- Sulphur content of fuel oil.

If different fuel oil is on use on board, a written procedure showing how the fuel oil change over is to be done before entering or leaving the Korean SECA should be available on board.

Voluntary Speed Reduction Program

The scheme applies to 5 ports (▲ Busan Port, ▲ Ulsan Port, ▲ Yeosu Port, ▲ Gwangyang Port and ▲ Incheon Port), participating ships will receive discounts on port entry/leave fees for complying with the slow-steaming requirements.