

Circular 5 / 2008

To: Ship Owners and/or Operators, Deputy Registrars, Surveyors and Other Interested Parties

Subject: MARPOL Annex IV (Sewage) Amendments enter into force September 27 2008

Date: 12 September 2008

The following applies to new and existing ships engaged in international voyages:

- 400 GT and above; and
- Of less than 400 GT, certified to carry more than 15 persons.

These vessels will be required to have on board an International Sewage Pollution Prevention Certificate from 27 September 2008.

To comply, the vessel should be equipped with one of the following sewage systems:

- a sewage treatment plant which shall be of a type approved by the Administration under the terms of Resolution MEPC.2(VI) or
- a sewage comminuting and disinfecting system approved by the Administration or
- a holding tank of a capacity to the satisfaction of the Administration for the retention of all sewage

In addition, vessels require a pipeline and standard shore discharge connection to enable pipes at reception facilities to be connected to the vessel (Regulation 10 Annex IV of MARPOL).

Prior to issuing the certificate, a survey will be carried out to ensure the vessel meets the all the regulatory requirements.

The details of the amendments to MARPOL Annex IV can be found in IMO MEPC circular No. 115(51).