



MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE
SHIPPING CIRCULAR TO SHIOWNERS
NO. 19 OF 2011

MPA Shipping Division
460 Alexandra Road
21st Storey PSA Building
Singapore 119963
Fax: 6375-6231
<http://www.mpa.gov.sg>

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Applicable to: Ship owners, managers, operators, masters, crew members, surveyors, marine fuel suppliers and the Shipping and Bunkering Community.

REDUCTION OF GLOBAL/EMISSION CONTROL AREA (ECA) MARINE FUEL SULPHUR LIMIT UNDER MARPOL ANNEX VI

1. This circular reminds the Shipping Community on the reduction of global/Emission Control Area (ECA) marine fuel sulphur limit under revised MARPOL Annex VI and urges the Community to take early actions for compliance to the regulations.
2. [Shipping Circular No. 2 of 2009](#) had drawn the attention of the Shipping Community to the adoption of the Revised MARPOL Annex VI, which entered into force on 1 July 2010 through Resolution MEPC.176(58). The Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Air) (Amendment) Regulations 2010 gave effect to the revised Annex VI on the same date. The Regulations apply to Singapore ships anywhere in the world and other ships while they are in Singapore waters.
3. Under Regulation 14 of the revised MARPOL Annex VI, the sulphur content of any fuel oil used onboard ships outside Emission Control Areas (ECA) flying the flags of MARPOL Annex VI Parties and by other ships in their territories shall not exceed 3.50% m/m on and after 1 January 2012 and 0.50% m/m on and after 1 January 2020 unless they are equipped with type approved abatement technologies for reducing SOx emissions to the required levels.
4. The sulphur content of any fuel oil used onboard ships within an ECA shall not exceed 1.00% m/m on and after 1 July 2010, and shall not exceed 0.10% m/m on and after 1 January 2015. In addition to the Baltic Sea and the North Sea areas which were designated as ECAs under Regulation 14, [Shipping Circular](#)

[No.13 of 2011](#) had informed the Shipping Community of the amendments to Annex VI of MARPOL 73/78 on the designation of the North American ECA. The North American area as an ECA under Regulation 14 shall take effect on 1 August 2012. In addition, the United States Caribbean Sea area as an ECA under Regulation 14 is likely to enter into force on 1 January 2013, and take effect on 1 January 2014.

5. Shipowners and operators are advised to ensure that the absolute sulphur content of any fuel oil used onboard ships does not exceed the limits as required under Regulation 14 of the revised MARPOL Annex VI. Shipowners are also advised to properly maintain clear entries in the Oil Record Book and ensure the BDN is in good order as documentary proof of vessel's compliance to the requirements.

6. Any queries relating to this circular should be directed to Mr Zafrul Alam (Tel: 6375 6204) or Mr Princet Ang (Tel: 6375 6259).

CHEONG KENG SOON
DIRECTOR OF MARINE
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE