



PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEA (OIL) REGULATIONS - PHASING OUT OF SINGLE HULLED OIL TANKERS

SC No. 25 of 2004

12-11-2004

Applicable to: Ship owners, managers, operators, agents, masters and crew members

This circular informs the shipping community of the expected entry into force of revised Regulation 13G of MARPOL Annex I (phasing out of single hulled oil tankers (SHTs)) and new regulation 13H (ban on carriage of heavy grade oil in SHTs) and MPA's approach to these regulations.

The MPA through a Press Release informed the shipping community on 23 Sep 2004 of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO)'s revised regulations to phase out single-hulled tankers (SHTs) and to ban the carriage of heavy grade oil (HGO) by such tankers.

2.The amendments to Regulation 13G of Annex I of MARPOL 73/78, new Regulation 13H and consequential amendments to the Supplement to the International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate adopted by the attached MEPC Resolution 111(50) on 4 Dec 03 are expected to come into force on 5 Apr 05.

3.The existing Regulation 13G requires the phasing out of SHTs of 5,000 deadweight tons (DWT) and above between 10 and 30 or more years old from the date of delivery, and not later than 2015. The new amendments seek to accelerate the phasing out of single-hulled oil and product tankers, subject them to a revised condition assessment scheme (CAS) and prohibit the carriage of HGO as cargo on board these tankers. The phasing out schedule for such tankers has been accelerated under the amendments. The final phase out date has been brought forward from 2015 to 2010.

4.SHTs of 5000 DWT and above are not allowed to carry HGO after 5 Apr 05 under the new Regulation 13H, while carriage of HGOs by SHTs of 600 DWT and above but less than 5000 DWT would now be disallowed by 2008. However, the amendments allow the Flag Administration to permit continued operation of SHTs up to 25 years of age or 2015 whichever is the earlier, subject to CAS. An SHT fitted with double bottom tanks or double sides is allowed to continue to carry HGO until it reaches 25 years of age if the Flag Administration grants it an exemption.

5.As a Party to MARPOL 73/78, Singapore has international treaty obligations to give effect to these amendments. The MPA is preparing necessary regulations to give effect to the amendments. The regulations are expected to enter into force on the same date the amendments enter into force internationally i.e. 5 April 2005. The main requirements of the amendments and MPA's guidance on these requirements are highlighted in the attached table.

6.The shipping community is urged to take early action to comply with the requirements as soon as possible but not later than 5 Apr 2005.

7.Any queries relating to this circular should be directed to Mr Zafrul Alam (Tel: 63756204).

[Attachment A](#)

[Attachment B](#)

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