



LATVIJAS REPUBLIKAS SATIKSMES MINISTRIJA

LATVIJAS JŪRAS
ADMINISTRĀCIJA

Reģ. nr. 40003022705
Trijādības iela 5, Rīga, LV-1048
Tālrunis: +371 67062101
Fakss: +371 67860082
e-pasts: lja@lja.lv
www.lja.lv

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION OF LATVIA

6 December, 2016

Maritime Safety/ Environment Protection

Circular No 19

Important information to be considered before entry into force of International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments (BWMC) on 8th September 2017

Latvia has not ratified the BWMC. Nevertheless Latvian ships operating in waters and entering the ports of Party of the BWMC shall comply with requirements of BWMC. Ships may be subject to Port State Control inspection. Parties to the BWMC are listed in IMO Circular BWM.1/Circ.38. Updated information is published in IMO official Website: www.imo.org.

Article 3* Application

Except as expressly provided otherwise in BWMC, it shall apply to all ships.

BWMC not apply to:

- ✓ ships not designed or constructed to carry Ballast Water;
- ✓ ships of a Party which only operate in waters under the jurisdiction of that Party;
- ✓ ships of a Party which only operate in waters under the jurisdiction of another Party, subject to the authorization of the latter Party for such exclusion;
- ✓ ships which only operate in waters under the jurisdiction of one Party and on the high seas;
- ✓ warship, naval auxiliary or other ship operated in non-commercial service; and
- ✓ permanent Ballast Water in sealed tanks on ships, that is not subject to discharge.

* refer to full text of the BWMC

IMO Assembly Resolution A.1088 (28) Application of International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 Convention

- ✓ Application of D-2 discharge standard – after 1st IOPP renewal survey after 8th September 2017.
- ✓ After entry into force of BWMC a ship will be required to comply with either regulation D-1 or regulation D-2 until such time as regulation D-2 is enforced (D-1 Ballast Water exchange; D-2 use of Ballast Water Management System).
- ✓ Ships constructed on or after 8th September 2017 shall comply with D-2 standard upon delivery.

Main provisions for compliance with BWMC

- ✓ Development of Ballast Water Management plan
- ✓ Use of an approved ballast water management systems as applicable
- ✓ Ballast Water record book
- ✓ Survey and certification for ships of 400 gross tonnage and above
- ✓ International Ballast Water Management Certificate or Certificate of Compliance (in case the flag State is not a Party to BWMC)

Port State Control*

Upon entry into force of the BWMC ships may be subject to inspections by port states to determine whether they comply with the requirements of BWMC. Inspections include:

- ✓ verifying certification;
- ✓ inspection Ballast Water record book and/or
- ✓ sampling of ballast water

* refer to Res. MEPC 252(67) Guidelines for port state control under the BWM Convention

Ballast water management systems (equipment) to comply with D-2 standard

- ✓ Ballast water management systems must be approved by Administration.
- ✓ Ballast water management systems which make use of Active Substances shall be approved by IMO.
- ✓ Detailed information regarding the ballast water treatment technologies is available in IMO official Website: www.imo.org and [here](#).
- ✓ All vessels calling at US ports must comply with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) requirements relating to BWM. This states that the ballast water treatment systems should be USCG type approved. More information can be found [here](#).

Recommendations

- ✓ Consider operation of specific vessel and applicable regulations of BWMC, especially possible operation in US waters.
- ✓ Evaluate financial capacity and technical limitations for choosing most appropriate ballast water management system specific to ship operation.
- ✓ Plan survey and certification in due time to avoid increased load of docks and possible difficulties in supplying of equipment.

Survey and certification

Maritime administration of Latvia allows decoupling of IOPPC certificate from other certificates thus retreating from application of Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (Resolution A.1104 (29) as amended).

Additional information

IMO MEPC approved draft amendments to regulation B-3 of the BWMC setting out deadlines for the installation of type approved ballast water treatment systems on-board vessels. Amendments will incorporate IMO Res.1088 (28) into BWMC. Possibly additional amendments to the BWMC will be adopted upon or after the entry into force of the BWMC. IMO continues the revision of Guidelines for approval of Ballast water management systems (G8). Prospectively guidelines will be adopted as mandatory code.