

CIRCULAR

Entry into force of BWM Convention for existing ships

MEPC 65 adopted amendments for the implementation schedule of BWMC Standard D-2. When it enters into force a relaxation period will be granted for existing vessels that should be fitted with a treatment plan.

Existing vessels, constructed before the entry into force of the Convention, will require complying with Standard D-2 of BWM Convention by the first renewal IOPP survey after the entry into force of the Convention. Through MEPC 65 the first intermediate survey has been removed as a requirement and the implementation has been associated only with the IOPP Renewal survey as required by MARPOL Annex I. The reason for this change is due to the great number of existing vessels requires complying with Standard D-2 and therefore shall install a ballast water treatment plan. In addition, the aim is to broaden the dates of implementation over a five year period. However, a number of vessels will require complying with Standard D-2 as soon as the Convention enters into force.

Up until today, 38 States have ratified the Convention making up to 30.38 per cent of world merchant shipping tonnage. To Convention will enter into force 12 months after ratification by 30 States, representing 35 per cent of world merchant shipping tonnage. It is expected that the Convention will enter into force prior January 1, 2016 since one requirement (i.e. the number of States) has been fulfilled.

The revised implementation schedule is given below

Construction Date		BW Capacity in m ³	New Date
Before 2009		1,500 – 5,000	1 st Renewal MARPOL/IOPP survey after entry into force of BWMC
		Less 1,500 or Greater 5,000	1 st Renewal MARPOL/IOPP survey after the anniversary date of delivery of ship in 2016
In or after 2009		Less than 5,000	1 st Renewal MARPOL/IOPP survey after entry into force of BWMC
	2009 - 2011	5,000 or more	1 st Renewal MARPOL/IOPP survey after the anniversary date of delivery of ship in 2016
	After 2011	5,000 or more	1 st Renewal MARPOL/IOPP survey after the day of the entry into force of BWMC

In case the Convention will enter into force prior 2016, then the applicable date of compliance with Standard D-2 is the first renewal survey of all ships.

Act now

Owners / Operators / Managers are encouraged to start the preparation for the installment of ballast water treatment plans. All vessels shall be installed with an approved ballast water treatment plan based on the date of construction and ballast water capacity as outlined in the table above. Some ships will require complying with Standard D-2 as soon as the Convention will enter into force thus, it is important to have an installation preparation.

In addition, when the BWM Convention will enter into force, all vessels shall have an approved Ballast Water Management Plan (BWMP) and Ballast Water Record Book. The BWMP shall be prepared and approved in accordance with MEPC.127(53).

For further information please contact Dromon Head Office.

NOTICE TO
SHIP OWNERS / MANAGERS / OPERATORS
DBS STATIONS / AUDITORS

CONTACT US

