

## Marine Notice No. 35 of 2012

*Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishermen, Yachtsmen and Seafarers*

### MARPOL Annex V (Garbage) - Revised 2011

#### Background

The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) adopted, at its 62<sup>nd</sup> session in July 2011, a revised MARPOL<sup>1</sup> Annex V which is due to enter into force on 01 January 2013. It is intended that Irish legislation currently in draft form, namely, the *Sea Pollution (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage from Ships) Regulations 2012*, will implement the MARPOL 2011 revised Annex V and will be in place shortly.

#### Summary of changes in regulations

The MARPOL Annex V regulations controlling the disposal of garbage from ships have been completely revised. It will be no longer permitted to discharge most forms of garbage into the sea, whereas in the present regulations this prohibition applies only to plastics and material containing plastics. There are also new rules governing the disposal of cargo residues.

#### Vessel records

Vessel operators are reminded that they must maintain adequate records of garbage handling and disposal for compliance with these regulations. It should therefore be noted that the following must carry a **Garbage Record Book**:

- every fixed and floating platform;
- every ship of 400gt and above; and
- every ship certified to carry 15 or more persons.

The new form of the Garbage Record Book is currently being prepared by the Mercantile Marine Office (MMO) of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, and copies will be available later this year before entry into force of the new regulations.

Additionally, there is a requirement for a new **Garbage Management Plan** for the following:

- every fixed and floating platform;
- every ship of 100gt and above; and
- every ship certified to carry 15 or more persons.

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<sup>1</sup> International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973, as amended by the Protocol of 1978 thereto.

## Compliance

Vessel operators are strongly encouraged to obtain copies of the following documents, which are available on the [IMO](#) website:-

1. the new MARPOL Annex V regulations;
2. the 2012 Guidelines for the Implementation of MARPOL Annex V;
3. the 2012 Guidelines for the Development of Garbage Management Plans.

[For ease of reference, these documents are also available on the Department's website [here](#). Vessel operators are advised to verify the documents for themselves as this Department cannot accept responsibility for the content.]

**Non-compliance with the requirements of this legislation may result in detention of vessels under Port State Control, or prosecution, or both.**

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