



Marine Notice No.30 of 2007

NOTICE TO ALL SHIPOWNERS, SHIP MANAGERS, BUNKER SUPPLIERS, FISHING VESSEL OWNERS, AGENTS, SHIPMASTERS, SKIPPERS, FISHERMEN AND SEAFARERS.

ENFORCEMENT OF MARPOL ANNEX VI IN NORTH SEA SULPHUR EMISSION CONTROL AREA - SECA

The Department of Transport would like to advise that under Directive 1999/32/EC as amended by Directive 2005/33/EC the North Sea Sulphur Emission Control Area (SECA) entered into force on **11 August 2007** (this is in advance of the IMO entry into force date of 22 November 2007).

From that date EU Member States are required to enforce the applicable MARPOL Annex VI requirements to vessels of all flags in their ports. This enforcement can include inspection of the necessary documentation and equipment and detention of non-compliant vessels that present a danger to those on board or an unreasonable threat of harm to the marine environment.

This means that all vessels intending to trade in the North Sea SECA must use low sulphur fuel (less than or equal to 1.5%*m/m*) in all engines except those exempted by Regulation 13(b)(i).

Alternatively, a vessel may be fitted with an approved exhaust gas cleaning system.

To ensure compliance with these requirements and to prevent detention or delay by Port State Authorities, clear and comprehensive records should be kept on board of:-

1. all fuel bunkering operations including delivery notes;
2. fuel quality and its disposition within ship's tanks;
3. change-over from high sulphur to low sulphur fuel prior to entry into SECA (stating position and time) and vice versa on leaving SECA.

Representative samples of all fuel oil delivered are required. These samples must be sealed and signed by the supplier's representative and the ship's master or officer in charge of bunkering. It must be kept on board for a minimum period of one year after delivery or until all the fuel oil has been consumed, if longer. This sample is not to be used for any other purpose.

Problems encountered in the application of either the EU legislation referred to above or Annex VI should be reported to the Marine Survey Office for investigation.

Director General,
Maritime Safety Directorate,
Department of Transport,
Leeson Lane,
Dublin 2.

06/09/2007

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice please contact
The Marine Surveyors' Office, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2 +353 1 678 3400
For information in relation to technical specification/type approval of radio equipment contact the
Radio Surveyors +353 1 678 2363/2364/2365/2367.
For general enquiries please contact the Maritime Safety Division at +353-1-678 3418
Any enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:
Maritime Safety Directorate, Department of Transport, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2
Email: marinenotices@transport.ie
Or visit us at: www.transport.ie