



Marine Notice No. 22 of 2024

Notice to all bulk carriers, irrespective of their flag state of registration, calling at a terminal for the loading or unloading of solid bulk cargoes, and terminals in the State visited by bulk carriers.

European Union (Safe Loading and Unloading of Bulk Carriers) (Amendment) Regulations 2024

Background:

The European Communities (Safe Loading and Unloading of Bulk Carriers) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 ([S.I. No. 110 of 2024](#)), entered into force on **27 March 2024**, amending the European Communities (Safe Loading and Unloading of Bulk Carriers) Regulations 2003 ([S.I. No. 347/2003](#)), which transposed Directive 2001/96/EC, as amended by Directive 2002/84/EC. The competent authority for the purposes of these Regulations is the Marine Survey Office (MSO) of the Department of Transport.

Changes to the Regulations for the safe loading and unloading of Bulk Carriers:

- The Regulations now apply to all terminals visited by bulk carriers for the loading or unloading of solid bulk cargoes, except those which are only visited by bulk carriers in exceptional circumstances, as required by the Directive.
- Clarification of the requirements for regular verifications and unannounced inspections to be carried out by the MSO.

Penalties

The penalties set out in the Regulations for infringements committed by bulk carriers and terminals visited by bulk carriers have been amended. A person who does not comply with Regulations 5, 6, 8, 9 10, 14 and 16 is liable on summary conviction to a Class A fine. A Class A fine is not greater than €5,000 but greater than €4,000.

A person who does not comply with Regulations 11 and 12 is liable on summary conviction to a Class C fine. A Class C fine is not greater than €2,500 but greater than €1,000.

Where the MSO or an authorised officer believes a person is committing or has committed an offence under these Regulations (other than Regulation 16(10)), the person may be issued with a fixed payment notice for the amount of €500, in the case of an alleged offence under Regulation 5(2), 6(5), 8(4A), 9(5), 10(9) or 14(5), or for the amount of €150, in the case of an alleged offence under Regulation 11(2) or 12(2).

A person issued with a fixed payment notice may pay the amount to the Department of Transport within 28 days by the method specified in the notice. The person is not obliged to make the payment. A prosecution in respect of the alleged offence will not be made during the period specified in the notice and, if the payment specified in the notice is made as specified in the notice, no prosecution in respect of the alleged offence will be made.

The Regulations referred to above are those as outlined in [S.I. No. 347/2003](#) (as amended).

Contact Details:

For further information regarding this Marine Notice, or any other relevant matters, please use the below contact details.

- Marine Survey Office
Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60
Tel: 01 6783400
Email: mso@transport.gov.ie

Note: Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

Irish Maritime Administration,
Department of Transport,
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

17/04/2024

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:
The Marine Survey Office, email: MSO@transport.gov.ie.
For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division, email:
MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie.
Written enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:
Dept. of Transport, Maritime Safety Policy Division, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.
email: MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie or visit us at: www.gov.ie/transport.