



Technical Information

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To: Relevant shipping companies

Notice on the Requirements of Transfer Operations at Sea and in Coastal Waters by Australian Maritime Safety Authority

Australian Maritime Safety Authority released Marine Notice 8/2012“Transfer Operations at Sea and in Coastal Waters” to clarify the requirements of “Transfer of oil cargo between oil tankers at sea” and “Other transfer operations at sea” on May 25,2012.

1. Transfer of oil cargo between oil tankers at sea

Amendments to Annex I of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) concerning the transfer of oil cargo at sea have recently entered into force internationally and for Australia. The new regulations apply to STS operations involving oil tankers of 150 gross tonnage and above, conducted on or after 1 April 2012.

A new Chapter 8 entitled Prevention of Pollution During Transfer of Oil Cargo Between Oil Tankers At Sea has been added to MARPOL Annex I which mandates:

- An STS Operations Plan for oil tankers involved in STS operations;
- Qualifications for the person in overall advisory control of STS operations;
- Notification of scheduled STS operations not less than 48 hours in advance; and
- A requirement for records of STS operations to be retained on board.

A consequential amendment has also been made to the Supplement to the International Oil Pollution Prevention (IOPP) Certificate, Form B.

Full details of the new requirements can be found in the Australian implementing legislation, sections 11B –11G of the Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act 1983 and sections 10.8A - 10.8G of Marine Orders Part 91.

2. Other transfer operations at sea

All necessary precautions should be taken whenever a ship-to-ship transfer of other cargoes, persons, cargo or other goods is undertaken at sea in the vicinity of the Australian coast (outside port limits).

To enable the appropriate maritime safety information to be promulgated, it is requested that early notification be forwarded to the Authority when such operations (outside port limits) are intended including what contingency plans are in place.

Notifications for the purpose of transfer operations at sea should be directed to the Authority's Canberra office, as listed below, and to the appropriate AMSA area office.

Information provided should include:

- The date and location of the proposed transfer and full details of the ships involved;
- The purpose of the transfer;
- Technical details of the cargo to be transferred (including temperatures and pressures);
- Whether other craft (such as tugs) are to be in attendance and what equipment is to be provided to assist; and
- Arrangements for oversight of other vessels in the transfer area.

Notifications should be forwarded to:

General Manager
Maritime Operations Division
Australian Maritime Safety Authority
PO Box 2181
CANBERRA AC T 2601
Phone: 02 6279 5935
Fax: 02 6279 5071
Email: Reports@amsa.gov.au

This Classification Information is published on CCS website (www.ccs.org.cn) and is to be forwarded by CCS branches to relevant shipping companies in relevance to their business area.

Hereby notify the above.

Ship Business Operation Department
China Classification Society

Attachment: Marine Notice 8/2012

For any questions, please contact the Ship Business Operation Dept. of CCS Headquarters without hesitation.

Tel: (010) 58112288 Fax: (010) 58112842 E-mail: so@ccs.org.cn



Marine Notice 8/2012 Supersedes 7/2008

Transfer Operations at Sea and in Coastal Waters

This Notice supersedes Marine Notice 7/2008 which is now cancelled.

The purpose of this revised Marine Notice is to provide information to ship owners and operators about new regulations applying to the transfer of oil cargo between oil tankers at sea.

Transfer of oil cargo between oil tankers at sea

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Other transfer operations at sea

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Mick Kinley

Acting Chief Executive Officer

21 May 2012

Australian Maritime Safety Authority

GPO Box 2181

CANBERRA ACT 2601

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