Marine Environment Protection

Directive 2005/33/EC, maximal sulphur content of 0,1% for ships in European Ports from 1. January 2010

Dear Sirs,

The See-Berufsgenossenschaft would like to inform all ship owners and ship operators that from 1. January 2010 the maximal sulphur content for fuel used on board of ships in European Ports at berth is 0,1%. This can normally only be achieved by using Marine Gas Oil (DMA grade) or Marine Diesel Oil (DMB grade). Exemptions can only be made for ships which are berthed in ports for less than two hours.

With this EC directive the new MARPOL regulation for fuels used in emission control areas (ECAs) from 1. January 2015 is already valid for ships at berth in EU ports 5 years earlier. Similar regulations will also apply in Californian ports and coastal areas from 1. January 2012.

The documentation for the use of such fuels on board should be the same as used for low sulphur fuel in the Sulphur Emission Control Areas (Bunker Delivery Note, SECA Log Book or Ship Log Book) in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. The control of the use of such fuel is under the supervision of the ports. It cannot be ensured that ports may have additional requirements. Therefore the ship owners and ship operators should contact the relevant Port Authorities of the ports that the ship is calling.

The See-Berufsgenossenschaft recommends that the ship operators should take all necessary measures to ensure a safe operation of the ships auxiliary systems as boilers, diesel generators and fuel oil treatment on board. It may be necessary that conversions of the auxiliary systems have to be carried out. In that case the engine manufactures and the classification societies have to be informed.

Additional information can be given for foreign flagged vessels by their Flag State Authority or by the Classification Societies working on their behalf. For German vessels additional information can be given by the Ship Safety Division of the See-Berufsgenossenschaft under phone number: 040 / 36 137 217.