



Technical Information

Code: **TI-20-15**

Date: **23.11.2020**

Subject: Amendments to IBC/BCH Code and MARPOL Annex II

which will enter into force on 1 January 2021

Amendments to the IBC Code (MSC460(101)/MEPC318(74)), BCH Code (MSC463(101)/MEPC319(74)) and MARPOL 73/78 Annex II (MEPC315(74)) were adopted as **noted in ICS Technical Information No. TI-19-11.**

Entry into force Dates:

These amendments will enter into force from **1st January 2021.**

Application:

New and existing ships carrying dangerous chemicals and/or noxious liquid substances in bulk will need to satisfy the revised requirements prior to the date of entry into force of the amendments.

Descriptions & revised requirements:

A) Amendments to MARPOL 73/78 Annex II

A-1) Prewash requirements for persistent floating products

"Persistent floater" has been newly defined in the amendment. For substances that are persistent floaters with a viscosity equal to or greater than 50 mPa at 20°C and/or with a melting point equal to or greater than 0°C (substances that are identified by '16.2.7' in column 'o' of chapter 17 of the IBC Code), a prewash procedure shall be applied in certain areas (e.g. North West European waters, Baltic Sea area, Western European waters and Norwegian Sea).

The residue/water mixture generated during the prewash is to be discharged to a reception facility at the port of unloading until the tank is empty.

These new requirements will be applicable, for example, to the following products: Fish oil, Olive oil, Palm oil, Paraffin wax highly-refined, Rice bran oil, sunflower seed oil, etc.

The list of the identified persistent floating products is shown in Attachment 1 for your reference.

A-2) Revision of the standard format of P&A Manual:

The standard format of the Procedures and Arrangements manual (P&A manual) has been revised to incorporate prewash procedures and instructions on how to deal with tank washings for persistent floating products.

Therefore, the P&A Manual corresponding to the revised standard format shall be approved on behalf of the flag administration and provided on-board by the date of entry into force.

B) Amendments to IBC Code, BCH Code

B-1) Revision of carriage requirements (for products listed under Chapter 17 & 18)

Due to the revision of criteria for assigning carriage requirements for products under Chapter 21, the carriage requirements for all products have been reassessed, and most of them have been revised. Further new products have been listed under Chapter 17 and few products have been shifted from Chapter 18 to Chapter 17.

Summary of the revised carriage requirements is shown in Attachment 2 for your reference.

B-2) Operational requirements for persistent floating products (Chapter 16)

According to the amendment of MARPOL 73/78 Annex II, for clarifying the subjected persistent floating products, new provision 16.2.7 has been added.

B-3) Special requirements of Hydrogen Sulphide (H₂S) detection equipment (Chapter 15)

New provision 15.15 requiring the installation of Hydrogen Sulphide (H₂S) detection equipment as special requirements for the carriage of products such as:

- Sodium Hydrosulphide/Ammonium Sulphide solution
- Sodium Hydrosulphide solution (45% or less)
- Offshore contaminated bulk liquid S (o)

Note for Owner/ Manager

- As mentioned above, the vessel's P&A Manual should be revised basis on new paragraphs of MARPOL Annex II, appendix IV & VI and submitted to ICS head office for approval and kept on-board prior to 1 January 2021.
- As the carriage requirements for most products have been revised as mentioned above, the range of products a ship is certified to carry will differ before and after 1 January 2021, therefore, it is necessary for most ships to change the description of the Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk or NLS (noxious liquid substances) Certificate (e.g. deletion of some products from the certificate of fitness) or to modify the ship's equipment.
- The revised certificate will have the same expiry date as the existing certificate and is effective, and replaces the existing certificate, on 1 January 2021.
- When cargo is loaded prior to 1 January 2021, and unloaded after this date, the relevant provisions of the IBC Code at the time of loading are applicable until the cargo has been unloaded.

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