

**St. Kitts & Nevis
International Ship
Registry**

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Circular Letter to Maritime Registrars, Ship Owners and Ship Operators

Maritime Circular No. MC 74 17

DATE: OCTOBER 2017

BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION

Following the entry into the force of the Ballast Water Management Convention 2004 on 8 September 2017, this Maritime Circular aims to provide a brief summary of the requirements for vessels to comply with the Convention. This Maritime Circular should be read in conjunction with the Maritime Circulars MC/72/17 and MC/73/17.

The Ballast Water Management Convention applies to vessels of any type including submersibles, floating craft, floating platforms, floating storage units (FSUs) and floating production storage and offloading units (FPSOs). However, it does not apply to the following:

- Ships not designed or constructed to carry ballast water.
- Ships trading domestically (unless the coastal state within whose jurisdiction the ship trades requires compliance with the convention).
- Any warships, naval auxiliary or other ships owned or operated by a State provided it is used only on government non-commercial service.
- Ships with permanent ballast water in sealed tanks and therefore not subject to discharge at any time.

All vessels to which the Ballast Water Management Convention applies are required to:

Vessels of less than 400GT

- Implement on board a Ballast Water Management Plan approved by this Administration (BWMC Annex, Regulation B-1).
- Maintain on board a Ballast Water Record Book which shall at least contain the information specified in appendix II of the convention, for a minimum period of two years after the last entry has been made (BWMC Annex, Regulation B-2).

Vessels of 400GT and above

- Implement on board a Ballast Water Management Plan approved by this Administration.
- Maintain on board a Ballast Water Record Book.
- Carry on board an International Ballast Water Management Certificate, excluding floating platforms, FSUs and FPSOs, as identified in Section E of the Convention.

There are two Ballast Water Management Standards D-1 and D-2. The Regulation D-1 sets the Ballast Water Exchange Standard and the Regulation D-2 sets the Ballast Water Performance Standard. Vessels are required to comply with these discharge standards. Compliance dates for vessels as recently amended are shown in the Maritime Circular No. MC/73/17.

Additional Guidelines related to the implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention, some of which have been revised since their initial adoption, and a number of other relevant guidance documents can be accessed on IMO website following the link below:

<http://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/Environment/BallastWaterManagement/Documents/Compilation%20of%20relevant%20Guidelines%20and%20guidance%20documents%20-%20September%202017.pdf>

If you have any questions on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nigel E. Smith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nigel E. Smith
International Registrar of Shipping and Seamen