

Energy Efficiency of Ships

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for Marine Pollution Prevention Systems
Guidance for Marine Pollution Prevention Systems

Reason for Amendment

For the purpose of air pollution prevention, regulation 19 of MARPOL Annex VI specifies that requirements related to the energy efficiency of ships, such as keeping a Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP) onboard and calculating an Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI), apply to ships of 400 gross tonnage and above.

MARPOL, however, does not contain any provisions for granting exemptions from these requirements in cases where ships engaged solely on domestic voyages are required to undertake a single international voyage, such as for the purpose of selling or repairing the ship. Thus, the IMO, at the 68th session of IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC68) held in May 2016, began discussing whether an exemption should be granted in such cases.

The above-mentioned discussion was continued at the 69th session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC69) held in April 2016, and led to the IMO approving MEPC.1/Circ.863, which specifies that exemptions from the requirements related to the energy efficiency of ships may be granted in cases where a ship which is not normally engaged on international voyages but which, in exceptional circumstances, is required to undertake a single international voyage.

Accordingly, all relevant requirements were amended based upon MEPC.1/Circ.863.

Outline of Amendment

The main contents of this amendment are as follows:

- (1) Specified that ships which are not normally engaged on international voyages but which, in exceptional circumstances, are required to undertake a single international voyage may be exempted from requirements related to the energy efficiency of ships, subject to approval of the flag administration.
- (2) Modified the definition of MARPOL Annex VI referenced to in the Rules for Marine Pollution Prevention Systems.

Amended Requirements

Rules for Marine Pollution Prevention Systems Part 1 2.1.2, Part 8 3.1.1
Guidance for Marine Pollution Prevention Systems Part 8 3.1.1