

Unified Interpretations for MARPOL Annex VI

Amended Guidance

Guidance for Marine Pollution Prevention Systems

Reason for Amendment

IACS Unified Interpretation (UI) MPC98 clarifies the application of the nitrogen oxides emission regulations specified in MARPOL Annex VI with respect to cases where a diesel engine is replaced or added.

Recently, the North Sea and the Baltic Sea were designated as NO_x Emission Control Areas (NECA) (effective 1 January 2021), and the restrictions corresponding to their designation will be applicable to ships constructed on or after 1 January 2021. Since IACS anticipates the further designation of other areas as NECAs in the future, it decided to amend UI MPC98 to make some of the expression used more general in nature and this easier to apply to future NECAs. This amended version was adopted as MPC98(Rev.1) in August 2018.

In addition, IACS Unified Interpretation MPC12 that clarifies “all ships” to which MARPOL Annex VI applies was amended in response to the addition of Regulation 22A, which stipulates the Data Collection System, to the MARPOL Annex VI. This amended version was adopted as MPC12(Rev.3).

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with MPC98(Rev.1) and MPC12(Rev.3).

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Added the nitrogen oxide emission regulations applicable to the Baltic Sea and the North Sea as regulations applied to ships where diesel engines have been replaced or added.
- (2) Specified that the Administration may consider it to be an “unforeseen delay in delivery” if tests required after replacement or addition of a diesel engine are not performed within a specified period due to unforeseen circumstances.
- (3) Clarified the ships to which the requirements related to equipment for preventing air pollution from ships apply.

Amended Requirements

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Part 8 1.1.1, 2.1.2