

Exemptions for Unmanned Non-Self-Propelled (UNSP) Barges

Amended Rules

Rules for Marine Pollution Prevention Systems

Reason for Amendment

Amendments to Annexes 1, IV and VI of MARPOL were adopted as Resolutions MEPC 328(76) and MEPC 330(76) at the 76th session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC76) held in June 2021 to exempt unmanned non-self-propelled (UNSP) barges from relevant survey requirements.

Additionally, MEPC.1/Circ.892, which specifies that UNSP barges are exempt from compliance with the requirements for equipment specified in the aforementioned annexes, was approved.

Accordingly, relevant requirements are amended based on MEPC.328(76), MEPC.330(76) and MEPC.1/Circ.892.

Outline of Amendment

The main contents of this amendment are as follows:

- (1) Specifies the definition of “UNSP barge” respectively in Part 3, Part 7 and Part 8 of the Rules for Marine Pollution Prevention Systems.
- (2) Specifies that some of the requirements in aforementioned parts need not be applied to UNSP barges granted exemptions by Administrations.

“Rules for marine pollution prevention systems” has been partly amended as follows:

Part 2 SURVEYS

Chapter 1 GENERAL

1.1 General

Paragraph 1.1.8 has been added as follows.

1.1.8 Unmanned Non-Self-Propelled (UNSP) Barges

Unmanned non-self-propelled barges (UNSP) as defined in 1.1.2(9) in Part 3, 1.1.2(11) in Part 7 and 1.1.2(27) in Part 8 are not subject to the surveys specified in 1.1.2 for the relevant structures and equipment when exemptions are granted by Administrations.

Part 3 CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION BY OIL

Chapter 1 GENERAL

1.1 Application and Terminology

1.1.1 Application*

Sub-paragraph -8 has been added as follows.

8 For unmanned non-self-propelled (UNSP) barges, the following 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 need not be applied when exemptions are granted by Administrations.

1.1.2 Terminology (*Regulation 1 of Annex I*)*

For the purpose of the requirements in this part, the following definitions apply:

Sub-paragraph (9) has been added as follows.

(9) “Unmanned non-self-propelled (UNSP) barge” means a barge that:

- (a) is not propelled by mechanical means;
- (b) carries no oil;
- (c) has no machinery fitted that may use oil or generate oil residue (sludge);
- (d) has no oil fuel tanks, lubricating oil tanks, oily bilge water holding tanks and oil residue (sludge) tanks; and
- (e) has neither persons nor living animals on board.

Part 5 SHIPBOARD OIL POLLUTION EMERGENCY PLANS

Chapter 1 GENERAL

1.1 General

Sub-paragraph 1.1.2 has been amended as follows.

1.1.2 Equipment Requirements

Every oil tanker of 150 *gross tonnage* and above, every ship other than an oil tanker of 400 *gross tonnage* and above and offshore drilling rigs and other platforms used for the exploitation of sea-bed mineral resources is to carry on board permanently a Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan approved by the Society in a place where it is ready for immediate use. However, unmanned non-self-propelled (UNSP) barges (as defined in Part 3, 1.1.2(9)) need not comply with this requirement.

Part 7 EQUIPMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION BY SEWAGE

Chapter 1 GENERAL

1.1 General

Paragraph 1.1.1 has been amended as follows.

1.1.1 Application

1 The requirements in this chapter apply to the equipment for the prevention of pollution by sewage from ships.

2 For unmanned non-self-propelled (UNSP) barges, the following **2.2** need not be applied when exemptions are granted by Administrations.

1.1.2 Terminology (*Regulation 1 of Annex IV*)

For the purpose of the requirements in this part, the following definitions apply:

Sub-paragraph (11) has been added as follows.

(11) “Unmanned non-self-propelled (UNSP) barge” means a barge that:

- (a) is not propelled by mechanical means;
- (b) has neither persons nor living animals on board;
- (c) is not used for holding sewage during transport; and
- (d) has no arrangements that could produce sewage.

Part 8 EQUIPMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF AIR POLLUTION FROM SHIPS

Chapter 1 GENERAL

1.1 General

1.1.1 Application (*Regulation 1 and 3 of Annex VI*) (-1 and -2 are omitted.)

Sub-paragraph -3 has been added as follows.

3 For unmanned non-self-propelled (UNSP) barges, the following 1.2.1, 2.1, 2.2 and 2.4 need not be applied when exemptions are granted by Administrations.

1.1.2 Terminology (*Regulation 2, 13, 14 and 16 of Annex VI and 1.3, 4.1, 4.3.9 and 4.4.8 of NO_x Technical Code*)*

For the purpose of the requirements in this Part, the following definitions apply unless specified otherwise in Chapters 2 or 3:
((1) to (26) are omitted.)

Sub-paragraph (27) has been added as follows.

(27) “Unmanned non-self-propelled (UNSP) barge” means a barge that:

- (a) is not propelled by mechanical means;
- (b) has no system, equipment and/or machinery fitted that may generate emissions regulated by this Part; and
- (c) has neither persons nor living animals on board.