



TECHNICAL INFORMATION

36 Myeongji ocean city 9-ro,
Gangseo-gu, Busan, 618-814
Republic of Korea

Phone: +82-70-8799-8323
Fax : +82-70-8799-8339
E-mail: convention@krs.co.kr
Person in charge: Kwonwoo, Lee

No : 2021-IMO-03
Date : 08 Dec. 2021

Subject : Unified interpretation of regulations E-1.1.1 and E-1.1.5 of the BWM Convention

THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE(hereinafter referred to as "MEPC") adopted Amendments to regulation E-1 to the BWM Convention, the text of which is set out in the Res.MEPC.325(75) at its seventy-fifth session which was held on December 2020, include commissioning testing of ballast water management systems.

The Application to those amendments to regulation E-1 which shall be applied on or after 1 June 2022 with regard to commissioning testing may be taken into account the Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems (BWM.2/Circ.70/Rev.1), as may be amended.

A common date to be used for determining the implementation of mandatory commissioning testing of individual ballast water management systems in accordance with Res.MEPC.325(75) and taking into account BWM.2/Circ.70/Rev.1 was defined on as a unified interpretation approved by BWM.2/Circ.76, at its seventy-seventh session, which is now developed by the IMO.

All stakeholders who include shipbuilders, service suppliers, owners, operators should note the below specific interpretation and pay sharp attention in order to comply with the BWM Convention, 2004.

1. Background

- 1) MEPC agreed that compliance with regulation D-2 of the BWM Convention, 2004 should be validated in conjunction with the commissioning testing of an individual ballast water management system (BWMS) and approved the Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems (BWM.2/Circ.70/Rev.1), stipulating that the performance of the BWMS newly installed on ships should be validated by the Administrations or recognized organizations acting on their behalf by demonstrating that its mechanical, physical, chemical and biological processes are working properly before issuing the International Ballast Water Management Certificate (IBWMC).

- 2) MEPC also endorsed the view that the commissioning testing should not be applicable to ships that had already installed a BWMS and were certified for compliance with regulation D-2 of the BWM Convention.
- 3) However, the amendments to regulation E-1 of the BWM Convention do not explicitly provide an exact timing for the mandatory implementation of the commissioning testing of individual BWMS, whereas those amendments will enter into force on 1 June 2022, considering that there was no legal basis either in the BWM Convention or the BWMS Code to require a mandatory commissioning testing for ships with newly installed BWMS.

2. Instruction

MEPC approved the unified interpretation that for application to regulation E-1.1.1 and E-1.1.5 to the BWM Convention at its seventy-seventh session, irrespective of new ships under construction subject to regulation E-1.1.1 or existing ships retrofitting BWMS(s) on board subject to regulation E-1.1.5, the commissioning testing of individual BWMS taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization should be conducted if the initial or additional survey is completed on or after 1 June 2022. If the initial or additional survey is completed before 1 June 2022, the commissioning testing of individual BWMS remains subject to the specific requirements of the Administration(s).

3. Firms engaged in commissioning testing of ballast water management systems (BWMS)

- 1) The collection and analysis of the representative samples should be independent of the BWMS manufacturer or supplier and to the satisfaction of the Administration.
- 2) Firms engaged in commissioning testing of ballast water management systems (BWMS) should be registered by KR as a Service Supplier, taking into account section 18 (Firms engaged in commissioning testing of ballast water management system) to IACS UR Z17 (Procedural Requirements for Service Suppliers) reflected Rev.16 on August 2021, coming to effective on 1 January 2022, date of which application for survey is submitted.

4. Department in charge in KR and Reference Documents

1) Department in charge in KR

- Convention in general, Guidance for the Commissioning Testing of Ballast Water Management Systems
: Convention & Legislation Service Team (convention@krs.co.kr)
- Guidance in detail on Ballast Water Sampling and Analysis for Trial Use in accordance with BWM Convention(G2)
: Marine & Ocean Equipment Team (equipment@krs.co.kr)
- Firms engaged in commissioning testing of ballast water management systems (BWMS)
: Survey Team (servicesupplier@krs.co.kr)
- Installation survey and commissioning testing of Ballast Water Management Systems and issue the

IBWMC accordingly.

: Surveyor in charge of branch office

2) Reference Documents

As an aspect of implementation, the following documents, as may be amended, are to have access.

- IMO Resolution MEPC.300(72) - Code for Approval of Ballast Water Management Systems (BWMS Code)
- IMO Resolution MEPC.173(58) - Guidelines for Ballast Water Sampling (G2)
- IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev. 2 - Guidance on Ballast Water Sampling and Analysis for Trial Use in accordance with the BWM Convention and Guidelines (G2)
- IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.70/Rev.1 - Guidance for the Commissioning Testing of Ballast Water Management Systems
- IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.61 - Guidance on Methodologies that may be used for Enumerating Viable Organisms for Type Approval of Ballast Water Management Systems
- IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.69 - Guidance on System Design Limitations of Ballast Water Management Systems and their Monitoring
- IMO Resolution MEPC.279(70) - 2016 Guidelines for Approval of Ballast Water Management Systems (G8)
- IMO Resolution A.1120(30) - Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certifications (HSSC), 2017 (for BWMS that were Type Approved to the 2016 G8)
- IACS UR Z17 (Rev.16 Aug 2021) Section 18 - Firms engaged in Commissioning Testing of Ballast Water Management Systems(BWMS)

- The end -

Attachments

- Resolution MEPC.325(75)
- BWM.2/Circ.70/Rev.1
- BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.2
- IACS UR Z17 (Rev.16 Aug 2021)
- Circular (No. 2021-17-E)

Distributions : KR surveyors, Ship owners, Other relevant parties

Disclaimer :

Although all possible efforts have been made to ensure correctness and completeness of the contents contained in this information service, the Korean Register is not responsible for any errors or omissions made herein, nor held liable for any actions taken by any party as a result of information retrieved from this information service.