

CLASSIFICATION NEWS

October 28, 2008

No. 30/2008

STATUTORY ALERT United States Vessel Discharge Permits

APPLICABILITY All shipowners, operators and charterers

INFORMATION With effect from December 19, 2008, discharges which are 'incidental to normal operation'* will be controlled by regulations issued by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The regulations will require vessels of 79 feet (24.08m) or longer, operating in US waters extending to 3 miles from land, to have a discharge permit known as a Vessel General Permit (VGP). Vessels of 300 gt and above will be required to submit a Notice of Intent within six months of December 19, 2008, in order to be covered by the regulations and apply for a VGP.

The VGP will define effluent limits for each discharge according to their constituents and to best management practices designed to decrease the amount of those constituents entering the waste stream. A vessel might not produce all of the discharges covered by the permit, but owners and operators are responsible for complying with all the effluent limits for every listed discharge that the vessel produces.

Owners can submit a Notice of Intent through the EPA website by registering for an account at <http://cdx.epa.gov/warning.asp> and following the 'Vessel eNOI' system link. We understand that this facility will be available from around December 19, but not before.

* Discharges incidental to normal operation comprise: ballast water; deck washdown and runoff; bilge water; anti-fouling leachate from anti-fouling hull coatings; aqueous film forming foam (AFFF); boiler/economizer blowdown; cathodic protection; chain locker effluent; controllable pitch propeller hydraulic fluid; distillation and reverse osmosis brine; elevator pit effluent; firemain systems; freshwater layup; gas turbine water wash; graywater; motor gasoline and compensating discharge; non-oily machinery wastewater; refrigeration and air condensate discharge; rudder bearing lubrication discharge; seawater cooling overboard discharge; seawater piping biofouling prevention; small boat engine wet exhaust; stern tube oily discharge; sonar dome discharge; underwater ship husbandry; welldeck discharges; graywater mixed with sewage from vessels; and exhaust gas scrubber wash water discharge.

HELP US TO HELP YOU – if you are an owner or operator and require further assistance, please get in touch with your local Lloyd's Register Group office at the earliest opportunity and we will be happy to assist.

Further information

Contact: Graham Greensmith
T +44 (0)20 7423 2789
F +44 (0)20 7423 2213
E graham.greensmith@lr.org

www.lr.org

© 2008 Lloyd's Register

Services are provided by members of the Lloyd's Register Group.
Lloyd's Register is an exempt charity under the UK Charities Act 1993.

Lloyd's
Register

LIFE MATTERS