



CONARINA
5201 Blue Lagoon Dr., 8th.Fl.
Miami, FL 33126 USA

CIRCULAR No. 006 of 27 March 2011

To:	All surveyors to Oil Tankers
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	Ship to Ship Transfer (STS) Operations Plan
Reference:	IMO Resolution MEPC 186(59) and MARPOL 73/78 Annex I

IMO Resolution MEPC 186(59), was coming into force on 1st January 2011 and amends MARPOL 73/78 Annex I, adding a new chapter 8.

The regulation 41 of this new chapter states that all oil tankers involved in Ship to Ship Transfer (STS) operations shall carry on board a Plan prescribing how to conduct STS operations. STS operations Plan shall be on board not later than the date of the first annual, intermediate or renewal survey of the ship to be carried out on or after 1 January 2011.

Each oil tanker's STS operations Plan shall be approved by the CONARINA. CONARINA as Recognized Organization is duly approved by Flag Administrations to issue the certificate related to Annex I of MARPOL Convention and to carry out the revision of the STS operations Plan as well as its corresponding approvals.

Consequently, CONARINA, at the moment to carry out the verification of the STS operations Plan, shall make sure that such Plan is developed taking into account the information contained in the best practice guidelines for STS operations identified by the Organizations (IMO "Manual on Oil Pollution, Section I, Prevention" as amended, and the ICS and OCIMF "Ship-to-ship Transfer Guide, Petroleum", fourth edition, 2005).

All CONARINA surveyors are requested to inform immediately CONARINA Head Office if the surveyed oil tanker is involved in Ship to Ship Transfer operations. Ship to Ship Transfer (STS) Operation Plan should be forwarded to CONARINA for approval.

References:

IMO Resolution MEPC 186(59)

Kindest Regards,
Cosmin Bozenovici
Naval Architect – Conarina Technical Office