



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 073 of 18th August 2012

To: All Surveyors/Auditor

Applicable to flag: All Flags

Subject: **Biofouling Management Plan and Record**

Reference: POLLUTION - Resolution MEPC.207(62)

**On 15th July 2011 IMO Maritime Environment Protection Committee adopted
RESOLUTION MEPC.207(62):**

2011 GUIDELINES FOR THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF SHIPS' BIOFOULING TO MINIMIZE THE TRANSFER OF INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES

The Resolution emphasizes on the following:

5 BIOFOULING MANAGEMENT PLAN AND RECORD BOOK

5.1 Implementation of an effective biofouling management regime is critical for minimizing the transfer of invasive aquatic species. The biofouling management measures to be undertaken on a ship should be outlined in a biofouling management plan, and records of biofouling management practices kept in a biofouling record book, as outlined below.

Biofouling Management Plan

5.2 It is recommended that every ship should have a biofouling management plan. The intent of the plan should be to provide effective procedures for biofouling management. An example of a Biofouling Management Plan is outlined in appendix 1 of these Guidelines. The Biofouling Management Plan may be a stand-alone document, or integrated in part or fully, into the existing ships' operational and procedural manuals and/or planned maintenance system.

5.3 The biofouling management plan should be specific to each ship and included in the ship's operational documentation. Such a plan should address, among other things, the following:

- .1 relevant parts of these Guidelines;
- .2 details of the anti-fouling systems and operational practices or treatments used, including those for niche areas;

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- .3 hull locations susceptible to biofouling, schedule of planned inspections, repairs, maintenance and renewal of anti-fouling systems;
 - .4 details of the recommended operating conditions suitable for the chosen anti-fouling systems and operational practices;
 - .5 details relevant for the safety of the crew, including details on the anti-fouling system(s) used; and
- 5.4 The biofouling management plan should be updated as necessary.

Biofouling Record Book

5.5 It is recommended that a Biofouling Record Book is maintained for each ship. The book should record details of all inspections and biofouling management measures undertaken on the ship. This is to assist the shipowner and operator to evaluate the efficacy of the specific anti-fouling systems and operational practices on the ship in particular, and of the biofouling management plan in general. The record book could also assist interested State authorities to quickly and efficiently assess the potential biofouling risk of the ship, and thus minimize delays to ship operations. The Biofouling Record Book may be a stand-alone document, or integrated in part, or fully, into the existing ships' operational and procedural manuals and/or planned maintenance system.

5.6 It is recommended that the Biofouling Record Book be retained on the ship for the life of the ship.

5.7 Information that should be recorded in a Biofouling Record Book includes the following:

- .1 details of the anti-fouling systems and operational practices used (where appropriate as recorded in the Anti-fouling System Certificate), where and when installed, areas of the ship coated, its maintenance and, where applicable, its operation;
- .2 dates and location of dry-dockings/slippings, including the date the ship was re-floated, and any measures taken to remove biofouling or to renew or repair the anti-fouling system;
- .3 the date and location of in-water inspections, the results of that inspection and any corrective action taken to deal with observed biofouling;
- .4 the dates and details of inspection and maintenance of internal seawater cooling systems, the results of these inspections, and any corrective action taken to deal with observed biofouling and any reported blockages; and
- .5 details of when the ship has been operating outside its normal operating profile including any details of when the ship was laid-up or inactive for extended periods of time.

5.8 An example of a Biofouling Record Book and information to be recorded is included as appendix 2 to these Guidelines.

REFERENCES: ANNEX 26-RESOLUTION MEPC.207 (62)

ATTACHMENTS: RESOLUTION MEPC.207 (62)

Kindest Regards,
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