



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 288 of 5th September 2015

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	<b>Guidance on ballast water sampling and analysis for trial use</b>
Reference:	<b>BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.1</b>

**MEPC 68 has approved the revised Guidance on ballast water sampling and analysis for trial use in accordance with the BWM Convention. The revised Guidance is annexed to circular BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.1**

The purpose of this guidance is to provide general recommendations on methodologies and approaches to sampling and analysis to test for compliance with the standards described in regulations D-1 and D-2 of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention). This guidance is an updated version of the guidance contained in document BLG 16/WP.4, taking into account advances in research since the document was first drafted, and should be read in conjunction with the BWM Convention, the Guidelines for port State control under the BWM Convention (resolution MEPC .259(67)) and the Guidelines for ballast water sampling (G2) (resolution MEPC.173 (58)). Furthermore, and as instructed by MEPC 64, the sampling and analysis procedures to be used for enforcement of the BWM Convention should result in no more stringent requirements than what is required for Type Approval of ballast water management systems (BWMS).

This guidance consists of two parts,

- A discussion of the principles of sampling, accompanied by a list of recommended methods and approaches for analysis and sampling protocols available for compliance testing to the D-1 and D-2 standards in section 5; and
- Background information on sampling and analysis methodologies and approaches, set out in the annex.

Sampling and analysis for compliance testing is a complex issue. According to the Guidelines for ballast water sampling (G2), testing for compliance can be performed in two steps. As a first

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step, prior to a detailed analysis for compliance, an indicative analysis of ballast water discharge may be undertaken to establish whether a ship is potentially in compliance with the Convention.

When testing for compliance, the sampling protocol used should result in a representative sample of the whole discharge of the ballast water from any single tank or any combination of tanks being discharged.

**REFERENCES:**

- BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.1

**ATTACHMENTS:** No.

kindest Regards,  
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