



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 547 of 05th April 2019

To: All Surveyors/Auditors

Applicable to flag: All Flags

BWTS Breakdowns

Reference: BWM, USCG

USCG: Report BWTS Breakdowns Early to Avoid Penalties

Coast Guard marine inspectors performed 8,140 ballast water management compliance exams in 2018. Of those, at least 119 resulted in deficiencies, which suggests a significant decrease in deficiencies compared to 2017. Compliance is improving, but some of this reduction is likely attributable to a change to the form used by the Coast Guard to capture the data.

Last year there were six type approved systems. This year there are 16. These systems represent three different types of technologies so there is a larger menu of options for you to choose from. The majority of BWM deficiencies were for inoperable systems. It is the owners/operators' responsibility to understand how to operate the equipment and that the systems are not "plug and play."

Port state control outcomes:

Approximately 10,000 unique vessels representing 84 different flag states made over 84,000 U.S. port calls in 2018. Coast Guard marine inspectors conducted over 9,000 PSC exams and 8,800 ISPS exams.

REFERENCES:

- U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Commons

- ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,
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