



**TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 777 of 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	<b>Ballast Water Management Systems</b>
Reference	Ballast Water Management System (BWMS) Conv.

**Ballast Water Management**

Ships of 400 gross tonnage and above, excluding floating platforms, FSUs and FPSOs, are subject to survey and certification under the Convention unless a Flag or Coastal State requires/advises otherwise.

Permanently moored units including floating platforms, FSUs and FPSOs are excluded from the Survey and certification requirements of the Convention but are required to comply with all other provisions of the Convention.

**Required Documentation**

**Ballast Water Management Plan**

1. The Surveyor is to verify that the ship has a BWM plan (approved by the Administration or ABS when authorized) on board and which has been implemented. The Ballast Water Management plan is to be specific to the ship and contains the requirements in Regulation B-1 of the Annex to the Convention, at minimum.
2. The Ship is required to be fitted with a Ballast Water Management Systems, meeting the D-2 standard as per the implementation scheme specified by the Convention where advised by the Administration; resolution A.1088(28)

**Ballast Water Record Book**

The Surveyor is to verify that the ship has an on board BWRB (may be an electronic record system or may be integrated into another record book or system) that contains information as specified in Appendix II of the Convention. The BWRB entries shall be maintained on board for a minimum of two (2) years after the last entry has been made, and thereafter in the Company's control for a

**CONARINA Head Office**

6505 Blue Lagoon Dr. Suite 455  
Miami, Fl., 33126  
Tel: 1 (786) 558 5288,  
Fax: 1 (786) 325 0200,  
[Joel@conarinagroup.com](mailto:Joel@conarinagroup.com)



minimum period of three (3) years. Any exemptions granted to BWM regulations are to be recorded in the BWRB.

### Task

If the ship is not fitted with a BWM system meeting the D-2 standard, the Surveyor is to verify the following:

- The ship is in compliance with implementation dates specified in IMO Resolution MEPC.287(71).
- The systems meet the D-1 standard by Ballast Water Exchange (sequential, flow-through or dilution methods).
- Procedures for Ballast Water Exchange are incorporated into the BWMP.

The Surveyor is to examine the following:

- Any associated structure, equipment, systems, fitting, arrangements and material and/or processes, as specified in the BWM plan for full compliance with the requirements of the Convention, maintenance and full functionality. Refer MEPC.127(53) - IMO Guidelines for ballast water management and development of ballast water management plans.
- Records of each operations concerning BW fully and promptly recorded and signed by the officer in charge of the operation, with each completed page signed by the Master.
- Any piping, venting, interconnecting pipe/trunk arrangements or other structural/equipment arrangements provided specifically for or to facilitate Ballast Water Exchange confirmed to be in satisfactory condition.
- Arrangements and procedures for safely conducting Ballast Water Exchange (normally found) in the Ballast Water Management plan.

### The initial installation survey of Ballast Water Management System (BWMS)

The surveyor is to verify the following:

- Surveyor is to be provided with and review the Safety Assessment for the Ballast water system that has been reviewed by ABS. If the system is not classed / based on a notation, then surveyor should review documentation and safety data provided by the manufacture prior to commencement of the installation and initial survey.
- The BWMS installation is to be conducted in accordance with the technical installation specification.
- The BWMS is in conformity with the Type Approval Certificate of BWMS issued by the Flag.

#### **CONARINA Head Office**

6505 Blue Lagoon Dr. Suite 455  
Miami, Fl., 33126  
Tel: 1 (786) 558 5288,  
Fax: 1 (786) 325 0200,  
[Joel@conarinagroup.com](mailto:Joel@conarinagroup.com)



Where a BWM system makes use of chemicals/active substances, such substances shall also be type-approved by IMO. Refer to BWM.2/Circ.61 for Guidance on methodologies that may be used for enumerating viable organisms for type approval of ballast water management systems.

- Any operational inlets and outlets are located in the positions indicated on the drawing of the pumping and piping arrangements.
- The workmanship of the installation is satisfactory, and all bulkhead penetrations or penetrations of the ballast system piping are to approve standards.
- The Control and Monitoring Equipment is to be verified as operating satisfactorily.

Other treatment technologies may be used on board a ship under the provisions “Prototype Ballast Water Treatment Technologies” of the Convention.

Refer to Resolution MEPC.297(72) Amendments to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship’s Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004.

For Initial BWM Surveys carried out/completed on/or after 01 June 2022, Commissioning testing is to be carried out in accordance with the Guidelines contained in BWM.2/Circ.70 Rev.1, BWM.2/Circ.66 Rev.2, BWM.2/Circ.42 Rev.2 and reported accordingly.

Additional documents to be verified for any newly installed BWMS

The surveyor is to verify the following:

- Ballast Water Management System (BWMS) is to be type approved. The Surveyor is to verify type approval by the Administration (or its designated body), and for a “Type Approval Certificate of the Ballast Water Management System,” based on the IMO guidelines MEPC.174(58).
- Electrical and electronic components of the BWMS must be type-tested in accordance with the environmental testing requirements contained in the IMO guidelines
- Equipment manuals for the major components of the BWMS are to be readily available
- Where a BWM system makes use of chemicals/active substances, such substances shall also be type approved by IMO MEPC.169(57)
- Refer to CLS-REF-00111 Ballast Water Management Systems - Approval Schemes, which provides a flow chart of the type approval and initial installation process for treatment systems. It is important to note that equipment/systems which are subject to type approval require testing both ashore, and on board the vessel.
- Operations and technical manuals for the BWMS specific to the ship are approved by the

**CONARINA Head Office**

6505 Blue Lagoon Dr. Suite 455  
 Miami, FL., 33126  
 Tel: 1 (786) 558 5288,  
 Fax: 1 (786) 325 0200,  
[Joel@conarinagroup.com](mailto:Joel@conarinagroup.com)



Administration, and contain a technical description of the BWMS, operational and maintenance procedures, and backup procedures in case of equipment malfunction. Also included in these manuals are installation specifications, installation commissioning procedures, and initial calibration procedures.

REFERENCES:

- Ballast Water Management Systems

ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,  
CONARINA Technical Office

**CONARINA Head Office**

6505 Blue Lagoon Dr. Suite 455  
Miami, Fl., 33126  
Tel: 1 (786) 558 5288,  
Fax: 1 (786) 325 0200,  
[Joel@conarinagroup.com](mailto:Joel@conarinagroup.com)