



**TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 784 of 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	<b>Ship's fuel</b>
Reference	MARPOL Annex VI and SOLAS Chapter II-2

**DEVELOPMENTS TO ENHANCE THE SAFETY OF SHIPS' FUEL**

Sampling of Oil Fuel for Revised MARPOL Annex VI and SOLAS Chapter II-2 The Maritime Safety Committee approved draft MSC-MEPC guidelines for the sampling of oil fuel to ensure compliance with revised MARPOL Annex VI and SOLAS Chapter II-2.

The joint MSC-MEPC circular aims to create a single sampling process for both conventions to obtain representative fuel samples delivered for use on board ships. These guidelines are based on Annex VI to MARPOL 73/78 and resolution MEPC.176(58). The vessels subject to regulations 5 and 6 of that Annex must record details of fuel oil delivered and used on board. To ensure compliance, the delivered representative fuel oil sample should be accompanied by a bunker delivery note in accordance with regulations.

These guidelines also aim to aid in the implementation of flashpoint-related regulations. Sampling serves the purpose of ensuring compliance with Annex VI of MARPOL 73/78 and SOLAS Chapter II-2. The personnel taking the primary sample should be familiarized with the guidelines and sampling equipment. The primary sample should be drawn at the bunker manifold of the receiving ship witnessed by representatives for the receiving ship and supplier or by surveyor mutually agreed acting on their behalf.

The fuel delivered to the ship should be obtained at the receiving ship's inlet bunker manifold and should be drawn continuously throughout the bunker delivery period. A label containing information about the location where the sample was drawn, the date of the delivery, name and grade of bunker, etc., should be secured to the retained sample container and a 600 ml sample size is agreed as sufficient to undertake tests for both flashpoint and sulfur.

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The retained sample should be kept in a safe storage location, outside the ship's accommodation, for a period of not less than 12 months from the time of delivery.

REFERENCES:

- MARPOL Annex VI and SOLAS Chapter II-2

ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,  
CONARINA Technical Office

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