

"SARNIA NEWS" CIRCULAR

(Ref: 265/15/GP)

TO ALL SHIPOWNER CLIENTS TRADING TO USA including North America

27th March, 2015

Re: Fines for non-compliance with MARPOL Annex VI within the US Emission Control Area

Please find below information received, advising of the maximum sulphur content of fuel oil for all ships operating in the Emission Control Area (ECA) and advises of the importance of establishing an effective fuel oil change-over procedure that complies with MARPOL, which we would suggest is distributed to the relevant personnel, as well as being sent to the Master(s)/Chief Officers(s) of your vessel(s) if relevant.

Please be reminded that any infringement of Marpol Regulations would not be covered by the terms and conditions of your P & I insurance.

Best regards

Loss Prevention Team

From: Gray Page: Global Alerts [mailto:noreply@graypage.com]

Sent: 25 March 2015 12:47

To: Amgad Wanis

Subject: A new alert from Gray Page

Risk: Fines for non-compliance with MARPOL Annex VI within the US Emission Control Area

Background

The US Coast Guard (USCG) has issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin relating to the new Emission Control Area (ECA) sulphur cap which commenced 1 January 2015.

The bulletin is a reminder that in accordance with MARPOL Annex VI Regulation 14, the sulphur content of fuel oil used by all ships operating in ECAs, including the North American and United States Caribbean Sea ECAs, cannot exceed 0.10% (1,000 ppm).

The USCG has also issued a Marine Safety Alert 2/15 which reinforces the importance of establishing effective fuel oil change-over procedures that comply with MARPOL Annex VI emission regulations. The USCG has reported incidents involving substantial machinery space fuel oil leakages while vessels were switching between fuels. Such leakages have in some cases resulted in pollution, injury/death of crew and have been associated with loss of propulsion.

Assessment and Analysis

Shipowners and Ship Managers with ships operating within the North American ECA are reminded to use compliant fuel within 200 nautical miles of the North American coast and within approximately 50 nautical miles of the United States Caribbean Sea coast.

The full text of the USCG Bulletin entitled "New Emission Control Area (ECA) Sulfur Cap" can be read [here](#). Shipowners and ship managers are also reminded of the importance of implementing effective fuel change over procedures and for crews to be well versed in carrying them out.

The full text of the USCG Marine Safety Alert 2/15 entitled "Ultra Low Sulfur Fuel Oil & Compliance with MARPOL Requirements" Before entering and while operating within Emission Control Areas can be read [here](#). North's Industry News thread on Marpol Annex VI is a useful source of information and provides a detailed summary of the background to MARPOL Annex VI implementation and its requirements. North Industry News can be read [here](#).

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