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Shipping Information Notice – 086

Adoption of amendment 05-19 IMSBC Code

To: Ship owners, Operators, Managers, DPA's

The purpose of this Shipping Information Notice (SIN) is to advise on amendment (05-19) to the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code and its application date.

This amendment makes a number of changes to the IMSBC Code, some of which are outlined below, and also adds new products which have not previously been included in Appendix 1 (Individual Schedules of Solid Bulk Cargoes) of the Code.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The IMSBC Code became mandatory on an international basis when it entered into force on 1 January 2011. The Code facilitates the safe loading, stowage and shipment of solid bulk cargoes by providing information on the dangers associated with the shipment of certain types of solid bulk cargoes and instructions on the procedures to be adopted when the shipment of a solid bulk cargo is considered.
- 1.2 The purpose of this SIN is to advise of amendments to the IMSBC Code that have been adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) by means of Resolution MSC.462 (101) specifying forthcoming amendments (05-19) to the IMSBC Code.
- 1.3 The amendments (05-19) to IMSBC Code will become mandatory on an international basis from 1 January 2021. A summary of these amendments is set out below.

2. Summary of amendments

- 2.1 Amendment 05-19 to the IMSBC Code makes a number of changes to the Code. The following is a summary of some of the key changes.
 - 2.1.1 **Section 1 General Provisions** - The 'Characteristics' table has been revised and, consequently, has been replaced for each individual cargo schedule. The new format clarifies the Hazard Classification (subsidiary hazard(s) and MHB).
 - 2.1.2 **Appendix 1 Individual Schedules of Solid Bulk Cargoes** - The existing individual schedule for Seed Cake (non-hazardous) is deleted (and two new schedules added in its place, see below).

2.1.3 A new Group A cargo schedule for Bauxite Fines has been added, along with a corresponding test procedure for determining the transportable moisture limit (TML) of Bauxite cargoes (**Appendix 2 Laboratory test procedures, associated apparatus and standards** is amended to include this test procedure).

2.1.4 The following new schedules have been added to Appendix 1 of the Code:

Cargo	Group
Bauxite Fines	A
Calcium Fluoride, Calcium Sulphate, Calcium Carbonate Mixture	A
Flue Dust, Containing Lead and Zinc	A & B (CR, TX)
Zinc Oxide Enriched Flue Dust	A & B (TX)
Metal Sulphide Concentrates, Self-Heating UN 3190	A & B (WR or TX or CR)
Seed Cakes and Other Residues of Processed Oily Vegetables	B (SH)
Matte Containing Copper and Lead	B (CR, TX)
Brucite	C
Chlorite	C
Ferronickel Slag (granulated)	C
Seed Cakes and Other Residues of Processed Oily Vegetables	C

2.1.5 **Section 9 Materials Possessing Chemical Hazards** - Group B cargoes are those that possess chemical hazards that could give rise to a dangerous situation on board the ship. Amendment 05-19 to the IMSBC Code changes the way that these hazards are classified and presented in the individual schedules (also see 2.1.1 above). Previously, Group B cargoes were classified as dangerous goods (classified in accordance with the IMDG Code), or as goods that are hazardous when carried in bulk (MHB). Amendment 05-19 includes the identification of dangerous goods also possessing additional chemical hazards when carried in bulk and identifies specific types of hazards.

2.1.6 **Section 13 References to related information and recommendations** – a new entry to the table adds a reference to MARPOL Annex V, appendix 1, Cargo Information.

2.1.7 The following cargoes for which a fixed gas fire-extinguishing system may be exempted have been identified and added to the list published by the IMO as MSC.1/Circ.1395/Rev.4:

- Flue Dust, containing Lead and Zinc
- Matte containing Copper and Lead
- Zinc Oxide-Enriched Flue Dust

2.2 **Section 14 Prevention of Pollution by Cargo Residues From Ships** – this informative section of the IMSBC Code was added to the Code in amendment 03-15 in order to address additional requirements that solid bulk cargoes have to comply with for cargo residues under MARPOL Annex V (Garbage) and to facilitate the implementation of the revised Annex V regulations which entered into force on 1 January 2013. Following amendments to MARPOL Annex V, the previously recommendatory section 14 of the IMSBC Code was deleted in order to avoid duplication of mandatory requirements. Resolution MSC.426(98) adopted the removal of this section of the Code and this deletion can now be seen in the consolidated edition incorporating the 05-19 amendments.

2.3 As outlined above, amendment 05-19 incorporates amendments to the schedules on Seed Cake cargoes. Prior to the 05-19 amendment of the IMSBC Code, there had been four schedules for Seed Cake:

- SEED CAKE, containing vegetable oil UN 1386
(a) mechanically expelled seeds, containing more than 10% of oil or more than 20% of oil and moisture combined
- SEED CAKE, containing vegetable oil UN 1386
(b) solvent extractions and expelled seeds, containing not more than 10% of oil and when the amount of moisture is higher than 10%, not more than 20% of oil and moisture combined
- SEED CAKE UN 2217 with not more than 1.5% oil and not more than 11% moisture
- SEED CAKE (non-hazardous)

2.4 Seed cake could only fall under the 'Seed Cake (non-hazardous)' schedule, i.e. a Group C cargo not classified as UN class 4.2 dangerous goods in accordance with part 2 of the IMDG Code, if the exemptions described in the schedules for 'Seed Cake UN 1386 (b)' or 'Seed Cake UN 2217' were met. Certificates should be provided by shippers prior to loading to confirm this.

2.5 In the 05-19 amendment of the IMSBC Code, the single 'Seed Cake (non-hazardous)' schedule has now been deleted and replaced by two schedules titled 'SEED CAKES AND OTHER RESIDUES OF PROCESSED OILY VEGETABLES'. One of these two new schedules is for non-hazardous Group C cargo, and the other new schedule is for Group B cargo with a self-heating MHB hazard.

2.6 Therefore, in addition to the requirements for exclusion from either the schedule for 'Seed Cake UN 1386 (b)' or 'Seed Cake UN 2217' being met, it should now also be confirmed that seed cake declared as a Group C cargo does not meet the MHB (SH) criteria specified in section 9.2.3.3 of the IMSBC Code.

3. Application Date

3.1 The 05-19 amendment to the IMSBC Code will enter into force on an international basis on 1 January 2021, having already been available for voluntary use since 1 January 2020.

3.2 From 1 January 2021, solid bulk cargoes shall be shipped only in accordance with the IMSBC Code incorporating the 05-19 amendment.

3.3 The IMSBC Code is available from the IMO, 1 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR. The Annex to IMO Resolution MSC.462(101) contains the complete revised text (05-19) of the Code.

Steve Gomez
Chief Surveyor (Ag)
For & on behalf of the Maritime Administrator

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