



# Gibraltar Maritime Administration

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## Shipping Information Notice – 073 – Amendments to IMO Legislation (Period 01/10/2020 to 01/01/2021) Subsequent to SIN 064

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

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### References:

Resolution MEPC.291(74),  
Resolution MEPC.313(74);  
Resolution MEPC.314(74),  
Resolution MEPC.316(74),  
Resolution MEPC.317(74);

The purpose of this Shipping Information Notice (SIN), is to remind ship owners, operators, managers of upcoming amendments to IMO legislation/requirements due to enter into force during the period between 01 October 2020 to 01 January 2021.

### **ENTRY IN FORCE: 01 October 2020**

#### ***1. Amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II, V & VI, and the Nox Technical Code 2008 – Use of electronic record books***

Amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II, V & VI, and the Nox Technical Code 2008, have been adopted with allow the use of electronic record books as an alternative to hard copy record books, for compliance with the recording requirements of the afore-mentioned.

For ships to which the requirements to avail themselves of this provision, the electronic record system must be approved by the \*Administration, with electronic records generated and retained by the system presented so that the records are in the format required by the applicable MARPOL Annexes.

Electronic systems considered to be in compliance with the criteria for approval, must be accompanied by a declaration issued by the \*Administration, and retained on board the ship for the purposes of statutory surveys and inspections.

It is important to note, that existing electronic recording systems for rechargeable systems containing ozone depleting substances, shall only be considered as compliant, if they are accompanied by a approval issued by the \*Administration, on before the first renewal International Air Pollution Prevention (IAPP) survey on or after 01 October 2020, but no later than 01 October 2025.

***\*Administration – Gibraltar Maritime Administration will delegate the function for review and approvals of electronic records systems to its Recognised Organisations (RO)***

For further information on record books, please refer to GMA Shipping Guidance Notice 075.

## ***2. MARPOL amendments to Annex VI, Regulations 2.42 & 19.3 – EEDI regulations for ice strengthened ships***

Amendment to Annex VI clarifies requirements in relation to ships not subject to EEDI as a result of their disadvantageous hull shape and construction for ice breaking purposes.

Regulation 19.3 of Annex VI has been amended to refer to ships with ice breaking capabilities as ‘Category A ships’ as defined in the Polar Code, instead of ‘Cargo ships having ice breaking capability’.

The definition of ‘Polar Code’ has additionally been included in Regulation 2 for reference.

This applies to:

- Each new ship;
- Each new ship which has undergone a major conversion, and;
- Each new and existing ship which has undergone a major conversion to the extent that it is regarded by the Administration as a newly constructed ship.

The requirement is for Category ‘A’ ships designed for operation as Polar ships.

## ***3. NOx Technical Code 2008 amendments – Certification requirements for Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) systems***

The NOx Technical Code provides for two certification schemes:

1. Scheme ‘A’ – where an engine and SCR system are tested together, and;
2. Scheme ‘B’ – where an engine is certified separately before installation on board, and then a simplified test is undertaken.

Currently under the NOx Technical Code, scheme ‘B’ can only be used when the alternative scheme ‘A’ cannot be undertaken due to practical and technical reasons.

This amendment as per MEPC.291(71) (as amended) to the 2017 guidelines on additional aspects of the NOx Technical Code in regards to particular requirements for marine diesel engines fitted with SCR systems, removes restrictions whereby both schemes apply equally.

The amendments as per MEPC.313(74), also require the NOx reducing device to be included within Engine International Air Pollution Prevention (EIAPP) certification, and its presence included in the engine's technical file.

Steve Gomez  
Chief Surveyor (Ag)

Issue date: 08 April 2020

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