



MARITIME LLOYD

34 A, Off.3, Dimitry Tavdadebuli Str, Batumi 6000, Georgia

Tel: + 995 422 277537; Fax: + 995 422 277536.

E-mail: stat@geolloyd.com www.geolloyd.com

Circular No: 006 / 21.12.2016

To: Maritime Lloyd Authorized Surveyors

Dated: 21.12.2016

Subject: Retroactive requirements for engine room sludge piping systems.

Dear All,

Kindly be informed, that Regulation 12 of MARPOL Annex I was revised in 2011 prohibiting sludge discharge connections to the oily bilge water tanks, tank top or oily water separators for new vessels delivered after 1st of January 2014. The same regulation has again been amended, now making it a retroactive requirement for all vessels irrespective of delivery date, effective from 1st of January 2017 (Resolution MEPC. 266 (68)).

These amendments imply that sludge tanks cannot have any discharge possibilities to the bilge system or tank top, besides the following exemptions:

1. Sludge tank(s) may be fitted with drains, with manually operated self-closing valves and arrangements for subsequent visual monitoring of the settled water, that lead to an oily bilge water holding tank or bilge well, or an alternative arrangement, provided such arrangement does not connect directly to the bilge discharge piping system.
2. The sludge tank discharge piping and bilge-water piping may be connected to a common piping leading to the standard discharge connection referred to in regulation 13; the connection of both systems to the possible common piping leading to the standard discharge connection referred to in regulation 13 shall not allow for the transfer of sludge to the bilge system.

Visual monitoring should preferably be by a hopper, or alternatively a sight glass.

A screw down non-return valve in lines connecting to the standard discharge connection, provides an acceptable means for not allowing for the transfer of sludge to the bilge system.

Ship operators and managers should before the first IOPP renewal survey, ensure that such systems are compliant and if in doubt contact ML HO/Authorized Surveyors. In the event that modifications are required, system drawings will be subject to approval.

Also you may find the corresponding Circular at the Maritime Lloyd's website: www.geolloyd.com.

Kindly confirm the understanding of the Circular.

Best Regards,
Ellen Rukhadze
Chief Executive Officer
Maritime Lloyd

