



United States Coast Guard
Marine Inspection Office Europe



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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN (MSIB) 01-09

May 22, 2009

REQUIREMENT TO COMPLY WITH MARPOL ANNEX VI

On October 8, 2008, the United States became a Party to MARPOL 73/78, Annex VI – Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships. Since January 8, 2009, all U.S. ships must comply with the applicable portions of Annex VI.

Annex VI requires all vessels of 400 gross tons and above, as measured under the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969 (ITC), engaging on international voyages to demonstrate compliance with Annex VI through possession of an USCG issued International Air Pollution Prevention (IAPP) Certificate and its associated Engine International Air Pollution Prevention (EIAPP) Certificate. (At this time, Authorized Classification Societies (ACS) are not allowed to issue IAPP certificates on behalf of the Coast Guard.)

United States ships constructed (keels of which are laid or which are at a similar stage of construction):

- Before January 8, 2009 must have on board a valid IAPP certificate no later than the first scheduled dry-docking after January 8, 2009 but in no case later than January 8, 2012.
- After January 8, 2009, must have on board a valid IAPP certificate upon completion of its initial survey before the ship is placed into service.

Ships engaged on international voyages with engines over 130kW/175 horsepower installed on vessels constructed on or after January 1, 2000 are required to have a valid EIAPP Certificate for each diesel engine issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Information regarding the EPA's requirements can be found at www.epa.gov/otaq/marine.htm. Ships with engines over 130kW/175 horsepower installed on vessels constructed before January 1, 2000 that underwent a major conversion after January 1, 2000 are also required to have a valid EIAPP Certificate.

If a vessel obtained a Statement of Voluntary Compliance (SOVC) from either the Coast Guard or an ACS they may continue to operate under the conditions of the SOVC until the time the ship is required to obtain an IAPP Certificate. These vessels may exchange the SOVC for an IAPP certificate if they have first obtained an EIAPP certificate issued by the EPA.

Marine Inspectors from Activities Europe will be verifying compliance during drydock inspections. Vessels unable to satisfactorily complete the exam will not receive the IAPP Certificate and Annex VI endorsement on its COI until compliance is proven. Policy Letter 09-01 provides guidance regarding

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the implementation and inspection of vessels for compliance with Annex VI. This information is available on Homeport at <http://homeport.uscg.mil/>.

For additional information or clarification regarding this Marine Safety Bulletin, please contact Lieutenant Andrea Unger at the above number or address.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. W. Koster', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

J. W. KOSTER
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection