
4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

AFS.1/Circ.49
21 August 2012

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE CONTROL OF HARMFUL
ANTI-FOULING SYSTEMS ON SHIPS, 2001**

Ratification by the United States of America

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships, 2001, and to state that, in accordance with article 17 of the Convention, ratification by the United States of America was effected by the deposit of an instrument on 21 August 2012.

The instrument of ratification of the United States of America contained the following declaration:

"... pursuant to article 16(2)(f)(ii)(3) of the Convention, amendments to Annex 1 of the Convention shall enter into force for the United States of America only after notification to the Secretary-General of its acceptance with respect to such amendments."

The Convention will enter into force for the United States of America on 21 November 2012, in accordance with the provisions of article 18(3).

There are, at present, sixty-one Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 80.22%* of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping.

* This tonnage percentage is based on world tonnage figures provided by IHS-Fairplay, effective as of 31 December 2011. Tonnage figures are liable to fluctuate from year to year.