



KOREAN REGISTER  
TECHNICAL  
INFORMATION

36, Myeongji ocean city 9-ro,  
Gangseo-gu, Busan, 618-814,  
The Republic of Korea  
Phone : + 82-70-8799-8330  
Fax : + 82-70-8799-8339  
E-mail : convention@krs.co.kr  
Date : 19 May 2020  
Person in charge : Kim Hoi-Jun

NO.2020-ETC-03

**Subject : COVID-19 : USCG Ballast Water Management (BWM) Extensions**

The United States Coast Guard(hereinafter USCG) has published the Final Act relating to installation of BWMS for ships calling at U.S. ports, and those regulations were entered into force as of 1 Dec. 2013 for new ships regardless of the entry into force of IMO BWM Convention. In this regard, we already provided the requisite information on USCG BWM regulations, the list of AMS(Alternative Management System), extension request and designation of USCG IL(Independent Laboratory) through previous technical information several times in the past.

In addition, Coast Guard recently published a further extension program for USCG BWM requirements relating to the COVID-19. In this regard, please be informed the details on the extension program as follows.

- Contents -

It is expected that the installation and commissioning of a ballast water management system will be completed as scheduled for any vessel which conducts a dry-dock (inspection of the outside of the ships bottom) **before 1 April 2021**, but the following guidance regarding extension is provided for a case where **ships could not conduct a scheduled dry-docking repair due to the COVID-19**:

1. The Coast Guard will extend all compliance dates up to 12 months upon request. Ship owners need to identify the ships in order for the Coast Guard to adjust necessary documentation while any supporting documentation is not required, and additional time to accommodate further extension should not be expected. The ships that undergo a dry-dock repair but cannot complete installation of BWMS are encouraged to complete as much work as possible to avoid future dry-dock for completing installation of the system;

2. A case where an extension of more than 12 months is needed, ship owners may request an extension in accordance with 33 CFR 151.2036, and the requests should include:
  - A. Documentation that a system was purchased, and arrangements were made to have it installed. It means contractual documents or third party correspondence that include the previously arranged date and location of installation;
  - B. Documentation that the system could not be installed due to COVID-19. In this case, third-party documentation from dry-dock facility or BWMS manufacturer should be included;
  - C. The plan for installing the system, including a list of previously performed and scheduled work, and an estimate as to when and how installation and commissioning will be completed.
3. A case where an AMS (Alternative Management System) is converted to a Coast Guard approved system, but cannot complete due to COVID-19, an extension may be requested to continue its operation under 33 CFR 151.2026(c) until the conversion can be accomplished. As noted above, requests for an extension longer than 12 months should be supplemented by details and third-party verification(s) that a ship was previously supposed to meet the compliance date but not possible due to COVID-19.

All extension requests should be scanned and sent in by email at [Environmental\\_Standards@uscg.mil](mailto:Environmental_Standards@uscg.mil), and the review and approval of an extension request could take as long as 30 days.

For more detailed information, please refer to an attached bulletin. – The end –

Attachment :

1. COVID-19 : Ballast Water Management (BWM) Extensions – 1 Copy

Distributions : KR surveyors, Ship owners, Ship builders, Other stakeholders

Disclaimer :

Although all possible efforts have been made to ensure correctness and completeness of the contents contained in this information service, the Korean Register of Shipping is not responsible for any errors or omissions made herein, nor held liable for any actions taken by any party as a result of information retrieved from this information service.