



KOREAN REGISTER
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INFORMATION

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**Subject : Commissioning Testing of BWMS for Singapore flagged ships
(Early implementation of revised BWM.2/Circ.70)**

The BWM Convention (International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004. hereinafter BWM Convention), formally adopted in 2004, is the international measures to prevent and minimize the risk from spread of harmful and invasive aquatic species transferred from ships ballast water and entered into force on 8 September 2017.

MEPC 74 (May, 2019) approved the draft amendments to regulation E-1.1 and E-1.5 of the BWM Convention which require the installed ballast water management system (BWMS) to undergo a commissioning test during the initial or additional ballast water management survey, and the purpose of this test is to verify that the mechanical, physical, chemical and biological processes of the installed BWMS are working properly, taking into account guidelines¹⁾ developed by the Organization.

In this regard, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (hereinafter MPA) published MPA Shipping Circular No.9 stipulating that the commissioning test shall be carried out for BWMS²⁾ that is installed on board ships of 400 GT and above after 8 September 2019.

This information is relating to the Singapore flag instruction for mandatory commissioning test for Singapore flagged ships prior to entry into force of the amendments to regulation E-1.1 and 1.5 of the BWM Convention, and thus we would like to provide our customers with the requirements and reference on the instruction above, ship owners with Singapore flagged ships, builders, test facilities for ballast water and all related stakeholders are

1) BWM.2/Circ.70 : Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems. [A revised version of this Guidance was developed at PPR 7\(February 2020\), and will be approved by MEPC 75. MPA decided the early application of this Guidance for their flagged ships in advance before approval by the Committee.](#)

2) In accordance with regulation B-3 of the BWM Convention, ships constructed on or after 8 September 2017 shall comply with D-2 standard by installing BWMS onboard, and ships constructed before 8 September 2017 shall comply with D-2 standard by installing BWMS by the IOPP renewal survey on or after 8 September 2019.

kindly invited to pay full attention to implement this instruction accordingly.

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1. The commissioning test shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the attending surveyor after a complete installation of the BWMS, and after all ballasting equipment (pumps and piping, etc) has been fully tested as appropriate.
2. The representative ballast water samples collected for the commissioning test should be analyzed using at least an appropriate indicative analysis method (BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.1), the test result should not exceed D-2 standard. In addition, a written report including methods and detailed results of the commissioning test should be provided to the attending surveyor for verification before IBWM Certificate is issued.
3. Commissioning Test shall be prepared between ship owners / manager / shipyard / contractor and the manufacturer, and the test facilities engaged to conduct the commissioning test shall be independent of the manufacturer of the BWMS and accepted by the RO which issues the IBWMC.
4. Test facilities engaged to conduct the commissioning test shall be of testing laboratory which has an accreditation in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025 with regard to biology, environmental science.
5. If the commissioning test cannot be successfully carried out due to the equipment's system design limitation, a short term IBWMC may be issued for a period of not more than 3 months. A case where the commissioning test is not completed within 3 months of the short term IBWMC, its extension shall be subject to the approval by MPA.
6. In accordance with revised 'Guidance for commissioning testing of BWMS (PPR 7/WP.4/Add.1)' agreed at IMO PPR 7 which was held in February 2020:
 - .1 Representative samples should be analyzed for the two size class ($\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$ and ≥ 10 to $< 50 \mu\text{m}$), and analysis of bacteria (indicator microbe) needs not to be carried out during BWMS commissioning testing;
 - .2 The collection and analysis of the representative samples should be carried out by the entity which is independent of the BWMS manufacturer or supplier and to the satisfaction of the Administration; and

.3 With respect to the ambient water, regardless of the level of challenge, indicative analysis maybe undertaken to characterize the ambient water. Characterization of the ambient water does not require detailed analysis.

For more detailed information, please refer to the attached MPA Shipping Circular and PPR 7/WP.4/Add.1. – The end –

Attachment :

1. MPA Shipping Circular No.9 – 1 copy
2. PPR 7/WP.4/Add.1 – 1 copy

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

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