



TECHNICAL ALERT No. 16-05 Rev.3

International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments 2004 (Ballast Water Management Convention)

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The *International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004* (commonly referred to as the *Ballast Water Management Convention*), was adopted on 13 February 2004.
- 1.2. The entry into force requirements were met on 08 September 2016, therefore **the Convention will enter into force on 08 September 2017.**
- 1.3. This Technical Alert provides information on the application dates for provisions of the Convention to allow owners to plan for implementation and supersedes Technical Alert 16-05 Rev.2.
- 1.4. This Technical Alert will be replaced with a BMA Information Bulletin in due course.

2. Ballast Water Management Convention Requirements

- 2.1. The Convention requires ships to have the following upon entry into force:
 - i. Approved ballast water management plan (Regulation B-1);
 - ii. Ballast water record book (Regulation B-2)¹;
 - iii. An International Ballast Water Management Certificate (issued after survey under Regulation E-1).

¹ available to purchase from the BMA, please see [BMA Information Bulletin No.152](#)

- 2.2. The Convention also requires ships to be fitted with an approved ballast water treatment system, which meets the discharge standard specified in Regulation D-2, by the dates specified in Regulation B-3 (but see paragraph 3 below).
- 2.3. Any ship which has been surveyed for compliance with the Convention may be issued with a Ballast Water Management Statement of Compliance by the Bahamas Recognised Organisation which classes the ship.
- 2.4. When the Convention has entered into force **AND** has been ratified by The Bahamas, any Statements of Compliance issued to Bahamian ships by Bahamas Recognised Organisations shall be replaced directly with an International Ballast Water Management Certificate, without survey, with the expiry date being no later than that on the existing Statement of Compliance.

3. Convention Implementation Dates

- 3.1. The Convention contains implementation dates, which were set in the expectation that the Convention would have been ratified much earlier.
- 3.2. As ratification of the Convention has taken much longer than originally expected, some of the implementation dates in the Convention have passed. It is not possible for the Convention to be amended until it has entered into force.
- 3.3. The IMO Assembly therefore issued Resolution A.1088(28) in late 2013 which introduced altered implementation dates.
- 3.4. Ships to which the Convention applies, with a keel laying date before 08 September 2017, are required to comply with the discharge standard specified in Regulation D-2 of the Convention by the first IOPP renewal survey after 08 September 2017.
- 3.5. Ships to which the Convention applies, with a keel laying date on or after 08 September 2017, are required to comply with the discharge standard specified in Regulation D-2 of the Convention on delivery.
- 3.6. Regulation D-1 (ballast water exchange) applies to all ships to which the Convention applies from 08 September 2017.

4. IOPP Renewal Surveys

- 4.1. Taking IMO Assembly Resolution A.1088(28) into account, the BMA has received a number of requests to bring the IOPP renewal survey for some ships forward (i.e. to “de-harmonise” the IOPP renewal survey), in order to defer the date of compliance with the Convention.
- 4.2. Where the IOPP renewal survey is completed early and de-harmonised with the remaining renewal surveys, it is recommended that the IOPP renewal be re-harmonised with the remaining renewal surveys at the earliest possible date.
- 4.3. Where renewal surveys are completed more than 3 months before the expiry date of the existing statutory certificates, the new statutory certificates shall be valid for 5 years and harmonised with the date of completion of the last renewal survey to be completed.
- 4.4. In all cases where the owner wishes to complete the IOPP renewal survey early, the Recognised Organisation (Class) shall advise the BMA.

5. United States of America

- 5.1. The United States Coast Guard has issued updated guidance on its Ballast Water Management Program. Please refer to Marine Safety Information Bulletin 13-15 ([click here](#)), Coast Guard Policy Letter No.13-01, Revision 2 ([click here](#)) and Marine Safety Information Bulletin 010/16 ([click here](#)).

6. Validity

- 6.1. This alert is valid until publication of a BMA Information Bulletin on the Ballast Water Management Convention.

7. Revision History

Rev.3 (07 November 2016) – Editorial amendments

Rev.2 (09 September 2016) – Revised following IMO confirmation that entry into force requirements have been met

Rev.1 (18 January 2016) – Revised following IMO confirmation that conditions for entry into force of the Convention have not been met

Rev.0 (15 January 2016) – First issue