

INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 264

IOPP Certificate Renewal in respect of Ballast Water Management

Application: ROs, ship-owners, operators, masters and officers of merchant ships

Shipowners/managers may seek to de-harmonize the IOPP certificate due dates from the HSSC systematic of the statutory certificates for their vessels to allow the renewal IOPP survey before the implementation date of BWM (due 8th Sept. 2017) in order to postpone the installation of a BWMT system.

BMSR policy is to ensure that the requirements of the Convention are implemented on board vessels as soon as possible in order to reduce the impact of invasive non-native species. However, there is no legal requirement for the IOPP anniversary date to be aligned with other HSSC certificates. The decision whether to renew the IOPP certificate early is therefore a commercial decision which needs to be made by the owner/manager taking into consideration the pros and cons of such an action.

Shipowners/managers may request BMSR approval for de-coupling the IOPP Certificate due dates. If approved, then BMSR will require realignment of surveys at the next renewal date. Any such request to bring forward the IOPP renewal survey in connection with the BWM Convention is to be submitted to the Administration by owners/managers or RO, with a well-founded justification, for case by case examination by Barbados Flag.

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