

Subject

An entry-into-force of an international code for ships operating in polar waters (POLAR Code)

ClassNK Technical Information

No. TEC-1096
Date 27 December 2016

To whom it may concern

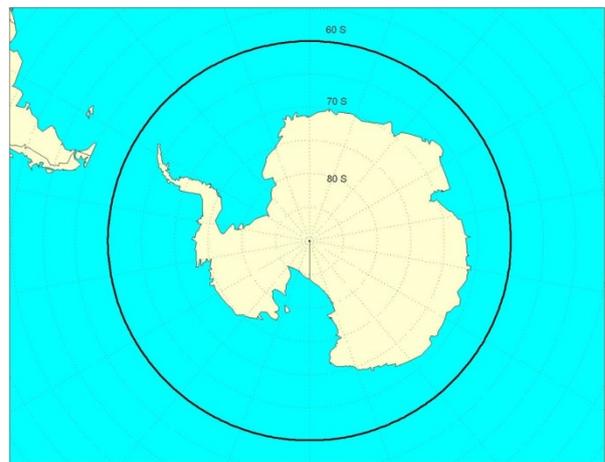
POLAR Code has been developed since 2009 for the safety of ships operating in the Arctic and Antarctic Oceans, which is known as polar waters, and protection of the environment of polar waters, taking into account growing global interest in development of the Arctic sea route and expansion of passenger ships' navigation areas.

As a result, safety measures in Part I of the Code, pollution prevention measure in Part II of the Code and amendments to SOLAS, STCW and MARPOL to make the Code mandatory were adopted.

1. In view of the above, the Code will be applied to the ships operating in the areas shown in the figure 1-1 and 1-2 in accordance with the table 1.



Figre1-1: Arctic Sea



Figre1-2: Antarctic Sea

Table 1: Application of each requirement

	Part I Safety measures	Part II Pollution prevention measures
New ships	Ships constructed on or after 1 January 2017	On or after 1 January 2017
Existing ships	Not later than the first intermediate or renewal survey, whichever occurs first, after 1 January 2018	On or after 1 January 2017 (*1)

(*1): For more details, please see paragraph 3. described hereinafter.

(To be continued)

NOTES:

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Part I of the Code stipulates safety measures including stability, seaworthiness, fire safety and life-saving appliances and radio communications, while Part II sets out pollution prevention measures. For the composition and overview of the Polar Code, please refer to Table 2-1 and Table 2-2.

Table 2-1: Composition and overview of Polar Code (Part I Safety Measures)

Chapter	Items	Summary
Part I-A Mandatory requirements		
1	General	Definitions, certificate and survey, etc.
2	Polar Water Operational Manual (*2)	Conditions and procedures for the operation in polar waters, etc.
3	Ship Structure	Strengthening of hull structures in accordance with the areas of operation, etc.
4	Subdivision and Stability	Stability taking into account of the ice accretion etc. (damage and intact stability)
5	Watertight and Weathertight Integrity	Prevention of freezing of closing appliances and operability at the minimum anticipated temperature etc.
6	Machinery Installations	Prevention of freezing of machinery and emergency source power units, etc.
7	Fire Safety/Protection	Protection of fire extinguishing systems against clogging by ice, etc.
8	Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements	Prevention of life-saving appliances from the ice accretion, etc.
9	Safety of Navigation	Installation of equipment to receive information for ice and weather information, addition of search lights, etc.
10	Communication	Addition of communication equipment taking into account the remoteness of polar waters, communication with escort ships, etc.
11	Voyage Planning	Factors to be considered in developing the voyage plan, etc.
12	Manning and Training	Additional requirements for qualification of seafarers, manning and training
Part I-B Recommendation and guidance for the implementation of Part I-A		

(*2): Polar Water Operational Manual (PWOM) is not required to be approved unless otherwise instructed by flag Administrations, e.g. Japan, to do so. However, PWOM is required to include information on the ship-specific capabilities and limitations in relation to the operational assessment and be carried on board.

(To be continued)

Table 2-2: Composition and overview of Polar Code (Part II Pollution Prevention Measures)

Chapter	Items	Summary
Part II-A Mandatory requirements		
1	Prevention of Pollution by Oil	Prohibition of any discharge of oil from ships, protection of tanks containing oil, etc.
2	Control of Pollution by Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk	Prohibition of any discharge of noxious liquid substances from ships etc.
3	Prevention of Pollution by Harmful Substances Carried by Sea in Packaged Form	No additional provisions
4	Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships	Requirements of distance from the nearest ice-shelf or fast ice when discharging sewage, etc.
5	Prevention of Pollution by Garbage from ships (*3)	Requirements of distance from the nearest land when discharging garbage, etc.
Part II-B Recommendation and guidance for the implementation of Part II-A		

(*3): For more details, please see ClassNK Technical Information No.TEC-1076.

2. In corresponding to the application of requirements which is specified in Table 1, initial survey including plan approval is required for confirmation of the safety measures and the pollution prevention measures, in accordance with Part I and Part II of the Code. Polar Ship Certificate to verify compliance with the requirements in Part I of the Code will be issued once the survey is completed.

Application which is described in Guidance for the Classification and Registry of Ships, Appendix 1, Form 1A/2A, with drawings/documents which are to be examined in accordance with Part I of NK Rule/Guidance, should be submitted to the ClassNK for the survey on ships operation in polar water.

3. Occasional survey of Existing Vessels entering polar waters on or after 1 January 2017 to comply with Part II

Documents such as Oil Record Book, SOPEP and others (*4) on board the existing ships are to be revised taking into account operation in polar waters and Occasional Survey of existing ship to confirm the documents for compliance with Part II is to be carried out prior to entering polar waters on or after 1 January 2017. Please contact us about the revision and approval of the documents onboard in advance of the survey.

Although the item relating to Polar Code is added to the form of IOPP Supplement (Form A, Form B) on 1 January 2017 in accordance with the Resolution MEPC.265(68), the IOPP Certificate is not necessary to be rewritten at Occasional Survey of Existing Vessels for compliance with Part II to comply with Polar Code (in other words, the current IOPP Certificate is valid board until expired) based on MEPC.1 / Circ.856, unless so instructed by the flag Administration.

Regardless whether the vessel enters polar waters or not, the IOPP Supplement amended by the Resolution MEPC.265(68) will be issued at the next IOPP renewal survey.

(To be continued)

(*4): The documents in the following are to be revised taking into account operation in polar waters, as appropriate,

-1. Documents related to MARPOL Annex I

- (1) Oil Record Books
- (2) The Procedures and Arrangements Manual for the approved crude oil washing system (*)
- (3) The operation manual for the oil discharge monitoring and control system (*)
- (4) The clean ballast tank operations manual (*)
- (5) The shipboard oil pollution emergency plan (*) or the shipboard marine pollution emergency plan (*)

-2. Documents related to MARPOL Annex II

- (1) The Cargo Record Book
- (2) The Manual for Procedures and Arrangements for discharge of noxious liquid substance (*)
- (3) The shipboard marine pollution emergency plan for noxious liquid substances (*) or the shipboard marine pollution emergency plan (*)

-3. Documents related to MARPOL Annex V

- (1) Placard
- (2) Garbage Management Plan (**)
- (3) Garbage Record Book

(*): It is to be approved in accordance with MARPOL / Rule.

(**): It is approved at the request of Owners, although approval is not requested in accordance with MARPOL / Rule. (Refer to ClassNK Technical Information No.TEC-1076)

For any questions about the above, please contact:

[For questions on general requirement]

- For bulk carrier, containership, vehicle carrier, general cargo carrier, etc.

NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI (ClassNK)

Hull Department, Plan Approval Division, Administration Center Annex, Head Office

Address: 3-3 Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0094, Japan

Tel.: +81-3-5226-2017

Fax: +81-3-5226-2019

E-mail: hld@classnk.or.jp

(To be continued)

- For tanker, gas carrier, etc.

Hull Department, Plan Approval Division, Administration Center Annex, Head Office

Address: 3-3 Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0094, Japan

Tel.: +81-3-5226-2017

Fax: +81-3-5226-2019

E-mail: hld@classnk.or.jp

◇Department in charge until 31 March 2018

NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI (ClassNK)

Natural Resources and Energy Department, Plan Approval Division, Administration Center Annex,
Head Office

Address: 3-3 Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0094, Japan

Tel.: +81-3-5226-2042

Fax: +81-3-5226-2177

E-mail: ned@classnk.or.jp

[For questions on survey]

Survey Department, Survey Operations Division, Administration Center Annex, Head Office

Address: 3-3 Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0094, Japan

Tel.: +81-3-5226-2027

Fax: +81-3-5226-2029

E-mail: svd@classnk.or.jp

[For questions on operational management]

Safety Management Systems Department, Assurance Operations Division, Administration Center,
Head Office

Address: 4-7 Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8567, Japan

Tel.: +81-3-5226-2173

Fax: +81-3-5226-2174

E-mail: smd@classnk.or.jp

Attachment:

1. Extracts from Resolution MEPC.265(68)
2. MEPC.1/Circ.856

**Amendments to MARPOL Annex I Appendix II-RESOLUTION MEPC.265(68)
Form of IOPP Certificate and Supplements**

Appendix

Supplement to the international Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate (IOPP Certificate) – Form A

- 14 A new section 8 is added after existing section 7 as follows:
- "8 Compliance with part II-A – chapter 1 of the Polar Code
 - 8.1 The ship is in compliance with additional requirements in the environment-related provisions of the Introduction and section 1.2 of chapter 1 of part II-A of the Polar Code^{*1)}

Supplement to the international Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate (IOPP Certificate) – Form B

- 15 A new section 11 is added after existing section 10 as follows:
- "11 Compliance with part II-A – chapter 1 of the Polar Code
 - 11.1 The ship is in compliance with additional requirements in the environment-related provisions of the introduction and section 1.2 of chapter I of part II-A of the Polar Code. ^{*1)}"

*1) Section 1.2 of chapter I of part II-A of the Polar Code is Structural requirements for category A and B ships constructed on or after 1st January 2017.

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

MEPC.1/Circ.856
22 May 2015

**GUIDANCE FOR ISSUING REVISED CERTIFICATES, MANUALS AND RECORD BOOKS
UNDER ANNEXES I, II AND V OF MARPOL FOR COMPLIANCE WITH
ENVIRONMENT-RELATED REQUIREMENTS OF THE POLAR CODE**

1 The Marine Environment Protection Committee at its sixty-eight session (11 to 15 May 2015) approved the *Guidance for issuing revised certificates, manuals and record books under Annexes I, II and V of MARPOL for compliance with environment-related requirements of the Polar Code*, as set out in the annex.

2 Member Governments are invited to bring the attached guidance to the attention of Administrations, recognized organizations, port authorities, shipowners, ship operators and other parties concerned.

ANNEX

GUIDANCE FOR ISSUING REVISED CERTIFICATES, MANUALS AND RECORD BOOKS UNDER ANNEXES I, II AND V OF MARPOL FOR COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENT-RELATED REQUIREMENTS OF THE POLAR CODE

Introduction

1 The Marine Environment Protection Committee (the Committee), at its sixty-eight session (11 to 15 May 2015), adopted, by resolution MEPC....(68), the environment-related provisions of the International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters (Polar Code), together with amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II and V to make the Introduction and corresponding chapters of part II-A of the Polar Code mandatory (resolution MEPC....(68)). The Polar Code is expected to take effect on 1 January 2017, upon entry into force of the associated MARPOL amendments.

2 In accordance with the Committee's decision that compliance with the environment-related requirements of the Polar Code should be reflected in the existing certificates, manuals and record books under the relevant Annexes to MARPOL, amendments have been introduced to the following certificates, manuals and record books:

- .1 Supplement to the International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate (IOPP Certificate) – Forms A and B;
- .2 Standard format for the Procedures and Arrangements Manual; and
- .3 Form of Garbage Record Book.

3 This guidance advises on the revision of certificates, manuals and record books under Annexes I, II and V of MARPOL for compliance with the environment-related requirements of the Polar Code.

International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate (IOPP Certificate)

4 Amendments have been introduced to the Supplement to the IOPP Certificate (Forms A and B) to certify that category A and B ships constructed on or after 1 January 2017 are in compliance with the additional structural requirements on tank protection, as set out in section 1.2 of chapter 1 of part II-A of the Polar Code.

5 In this regard, the *Guidance on the timing of replacement of existing certificates by the certificates issued after the entry into force of amendments to certificates in IMO instruments* (MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.6) provides, inter alia, that in cases where the ship has not to comply with new requirements, the certificate (and its supplement, if any) is not reissued until its expiry.

6 In addition, in cases where the ship has to comply with new requirements, the certificate (and its supplement, if any) is reissued at the first opportunity of the survey related to the new requirement, occurring after the date of entry into force of the amendments.

7 In view of the guidance quoted in paragraph 5, it is recommended that ships built before 1 January 2017, operating in polar waters, should be allowed to use the existing IOPP certificate until its expiry, as there are no additional structural requirements for existing ships.

8 Paragraph 1.1.3 of chapter 1 of part II-A of the Polar Code requires that, subject to the approval of the Administration, a category A ship constructed before 1 January 2017 that cannot comply with paragraph 1.1.1 for oil or oily mixtures from machinery spaces and is operating continuously in Arctic waters for more than 30 days shall comply with paragraph 1.1.1 not later than the first intermediate or renewal survey, whichever comes first, one year after 1 January 2017.

9 It is recommended that the approval of existing category A ships could be achieved through a letter of approval issued by the Administration, using the phase-in provision of paragraph 1.1.3 of chapter 1 of part II-A of the Polar Code, instead of reflecting the approval on the IOPP certificate.

International Pollution Prevention Certificate for the Carriage of Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk or Certificate of Fitness

10 Paragraph 2.1.3 of chapter 2 of part II-A of the Polar Code requires that, for category A and B ships constructed on or after 1 January 2017, the carriage of noxious liquid substances (NLS) identified in chapter 17, column e, as ship type 3 or identified as NLS in chapter 18 of the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code) in cargo tanks of type 3 ships, shall be subject to the approval of the Administration. The results shall be reflected on the International Pollution Prevention Certificate for the Carriage of Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk or Certificate of Fitness identifying the operation in polar waters.

11 The Committee agreed that there is no need for amendments to the NLS Certificate or the Certificate of Fitness and further recommended the following with regard to the approval referred to in paragraph 2.1.3 of chapter 2 of part II-A: when considering the approval of the carriage of NLS identified in chapter 17, column e, as ship type 3 or identified as NLS in chapter 18 of the IBC Code, the carriage conditions for voyages in polar waters may be noted in the column "Conditions of carriage" or in the general remarks related to the certificate. This applies to both the NLS Certificate and Certificate of Fitness.

Standard format for the Procedures and Arrangements Manual

12 Amendments have been introduced to paragraphs 1.3 and 4.4 of the standard format for the Procedures and Arrangements Manual, to make reference to the requirements of chapter 2 of part II-A of the Polar Code. The amendments to the manual are to be made prior to entering polar waters on or after 1 January 2017.

13 It is recommended that prior approval of the Administration, in accordance with paragraph 8 of the introduction part of the Procedures and Arrangements Manual, may be given automatically for ships introducing modifications to paragraphs 1.3 and 4.4 of the manuals, as set out in resolution MEPC....(68). Where such an automatic approval has been given, this approval remains valid until the first scheduled survey related to the NLS Certificate or the Certificate of Fitness.

Form of Garbage Record Book

14 Amendments have been introduced to the chapeau of section 4.1.3 of the Form of Garbage Record Book to make reference to the provisions of chapter 5 of part II-A of the Polar Code.

15 It is recommended that no approval is needed for ships introducing modifications to section 4.1.3 of the Form of Garbage Record Book, as set out in resolution MEPC.265(68).