

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND ISLAND POLICY
HELLENIC COAST GUARD HEADQUARTERS
SHIP INSPECTION BRANCH
DIRECTORATE OF SHIP DESIGNS AND CONSTRUCTIONS
DEPARTMENT OF POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CARGOS

Piraeus, 21 May 2020
Ref. No.2323.3-2/29850/2020

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TO: *See* TABLE OF DISTRIBUTION

Subject: Application of IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.70

REF: (a) L.4470/2017 – Hellenic Government Gazette No. 65/A of 8 May 2017 on “Ratification of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 and other provisions”;

(b) Paragraph 2 of Article 2 of L.2013/1992 (A 28’);

(c) Document No.4124.11/03/2007 dated 21 May 2007 of the KEEP/DKEO-DMK Service of the Greek Ministry of Shipping;

(d) IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.70 on “Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems”.

1. With regard to the subject-matter hereof and in response to queries submitted by Organizations authorized by the Greek flag State, and without prejudice to the forthcoming amendments to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments, it is hereby clarified that Greek-flagged ships that fall within the scope of L. 4470/2017 and have a ballast water management system installed on board for compliance with Regulation D-2 of the Convention shall adhere to what is stipulated in IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.70 pursuant to REF items (c) and (d) hereinabove.
2. Specifically, after a ballast water management system is installed on board a ship, it shall be fully tested in accordance with the guidance provided in the

above-mentioned IMO Circular so that it will be established that its mechanical, physical, chemical and biological processes are working properly.

3. According to paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3 of the above-mentioned IMO Circular, in order to establish whether a BWMS is compliant with the requirements of Regulation D-2, representative samples must be taken as per the procedure described in Guidelines G2 (IMO Resolution MEPC.173(58)) and an indicative analysis of these samples must be carried out in accordance with the methods set out in Table 3 of Circular BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.1 which in the absence of international standards for ballast water analysis shall be accepted by the RO monitoring the ship's compliance.
4. In the event that an RO surveyor deems that further detailed analysis methods are necessary in order to determine the number of viable organisms in the samples collected, such analysis will be carried out by an independent accredited laboratory pursuant to paragraph 6.2.9 of IMO Resolution MEPC.173(58).
5. You are kindly requested to take due note of the foregoing and proceed to any action as appropriate.

The Manager
Spyridon SKABARAS