

Amendment on 27 June 2024
Resolved by Technical Committee on 30 January 2024

Unified Interpretation of MARPOL ANNEX VI (Electronic Bunker Delivery Notes)

Object of Amendment

Guidance for Marine Pollution Prevention Systems

Reason for Amendment

Appendix V of MARPOL Annex VI specifies the information (e.g. sulphur percentage) that is to be included in the bunker delivery notes (BDN) required to be provided in accordance with Regulation 18. This information has already been incorporated by the Society into the NK Rules.

In recent years, the use of electronic documents as part of a transition towards paperless business operations has been increasing throughout many industries worldwide, including the maritime industry. These days many ship-related documents, such as certificates, are now available in electronic formats.

In response, the IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee discussed at its 80th Session (MEPC80) in July 2023 how requirements related to more traditional paper documents should be applied to electronic documents. As a result of its discussions, the MEPC revised the IMO's unified interpretation (UI) to MARPOL Annex VI (MEPC.1/Circ.795/Rev.7) to specify that electronic documents can be used in addition to hard copy documents with respect to Port State Control (PSC) and other matters for bunker delivery notes in consideration of the convenience electronic documents provide. The revised UI was adopted as MEPC.1/Circ.795/Rev.8.

Therefore, relevant requirements are amended in accordance with MEPC.1/Circ.795/Rev.8.

Outline of the Amendment

Specifies that electronic bunker delivery notes may be used in addition to hard copy versions as long as verification, such as tracking number or QR code, is possible and protection against edits, modifications or revisions is provided.

Effective Date and Application

Effective date of this amendment is 27 June 2024.

ID: DD23-26

Amended-Original Requirements Comparison Table
(Unified Interpretation of MARPOL ANNEX VI (Electronic Bunker Delivery Notes))

Amended	Original	Remarks
<p>GUIDANCE FOR MARINE POLLUTION PREVENTION SYSTEMS</p> <p>Part 8 EQUIPMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF AIR POLLUTION FROM SHIPS</p> <p>Chapter 1 GENERAL</p> <p>1.2 General Requirement</p> <p>1.2.3 Delivery of Fuel Oil and Bunker Delivery Notes <i>(Regulation 18 of Annex VI)</i></p> <p>5 <u>The “bunker delivery note” required by 1.2.3-2, Part 8 of the Rules is acceptable in either hard copy or electronic format. Such notes, however, are to contain at least the information specified in Appendix V to Annex VI and they are also to be retained and made available on board in accordance with 1.2.3-2, Part 8 of the Rules. In addition, an electronic BDN is to be protected from edits, modifications or revisions, and authentication is to be possible by a verification method such as a tracking number, watermark, date and time stamp, QR code, GPS coordinates or other verification methods.</u></p> <p>6 The wording “obtained in a way deemed appropriate by the Society” and “retained on board the ship in a way deemed appropriate by the Society” in 1.2.3-4, Part 8 of the Rules mean that to be obtained in accordance with <i>IMO</i> resolution <i>MEPC.182(59)</i> and to be retained on board the ship in accordance with the resolution accompanied with the label of the sample required in the resolution respectively.</p>	<p>GUIDANCE FOR MARINE POLLUTION PREVENTION SYSTEMS</p> <p>Part 8 EQUIPMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF AIR POLLUTION FROM SHIPS</p> <p>Chapter 1 GENERAL</p> <p>1.2 General Requirement</p> <p>1.2.3 Delivery of Fuel Oil and Bunker Delivery Notes <i>(Regulation 18 of Annex VI)</i></p> <p>(Newly added)</p> <p>5 The wording “obtained in a way deemed appropriate by the Society” and “retained on board the ship in a way deemed appropriate by the Society” in 1.2.3-4, Part 8 of the Rules mean that to be obtained in accordance with <i>IMO</i> resolution <i>MEPC.182(59)</i> and to be retained on board the ship in accordance with the resolution accompanied with the label of the sample required in the resolution respectively.</p>	<p>MEPC. /Circ.795/ Rev.8 12.2</p>

Amended-Original Requirements Comparison Table
 (Unified Interpretation of MARPOL ANNEX VI (Electronic Bunker Delivery Notes))

Amended	Original	Remarks
EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION 1. The effective date of the amendments is 27 June 2024.		