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Ref. T5/2.01

BLG.1/Circ.24  
6 March 2008

## **RE-SUBMISSION OF DATA FOR CLEANING ADDITIVES FOR RE-EVALUATION UNDER THE REVISED MARPOL ANNEX II**

1 The Sub-Committee on Bulk Liquids and Gases (BLG), at its twelfth session (4 to 8 February 2008), agreed that there was a need to stress the urgency of re-evaluating cleaning additives which had been evaluated before 1 January 2007.

2 The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), at its fifty-second session (11 to 15 October 2004), adopted the revised MARPOL Annex II by resolution MEPC.118(52), which includes in regulation 13 “Provisions on the control of discharge of Noxious Liquid Substances” and specifically, in this context, restrictions on the cleaning additives permitted for use in tank washing operations as follows:

“13.5.2 When small amounts of cleaning additives (detergent products) are added to water in order to facilitate tank washing, no additives containing Pollution Category X components shall be used except those components that are readily biodegradable and present in a total concentration of less than 10% of the cleaning additive. No restrictions additional to those applicable to the tank due to the previous cargo shall apply.”

3 The Sub-Committee on Bulk Liquids and Gases (BLG), at its eleventh session (16 to 20 April 2007), concurred with the view of its Working Group on the Evaluation of Safety and Pollution Hazards of Chemicals (ESPH) that the cleaning additives submitted for evaluation before 1 January 2007 should all be re-submitted for re-evaluation in accordance with the revised guidelines circulated under MEPC.1/Circ.590 on 1 August 2007. This decision was endorsed by the fifty-sixth session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (9 to 13 July 2007).

4 It was further agreed that the cleaning additives listed in annex 10 of the MEPC.2/Circular submitted before 1 January 2007 and identified as being evaluated through MEPC/Circ.363 will cease to be valid on 1 August 2010. To meet the expiry date of 1 August 2010, it is strongly advised that for cleaning additive components without a GESAMP hazard profile, the applicable data be submitted to GESAMP/EHS by 31 December 2008 at the latest. Once the GESAMP hazard profile is established, this should be submitted to the national Administration, together with all necessary information in accordance with MEPC.1/Circ.590 preferably well in advance of the BLG/ESPH autumn session in 2009.

5 Member Governments are invited to bring this information to the attention of those companies producing and/or selling tank cleaning additives for Noxious Liquid Substances and in particular to the companies responsible for the cleaning additives listed in annex 10 of the MEPC.2/Circular and identified as being evaluated under the superseded MEPC/Circ.363.