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AFS.3/Circ.1
3 September 2003

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE CONTROL OF HARMFUL
ANTI-FOULING SYSTEMS ON SHIPS, 2001**

Information regarding approved, restricted, or prohibited anti-fouling systems*

Communication received from Canada

Article 9(1)(b) of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships, 2001 (the AFS Convention) states that, "Each Party undertakes to communicate to the Organization, on an annual basis, information regarding any anti-fouling systems approved, restricted, or prohibited under its domestic law." Article 9(2) of the AFS Convention states that the Organization shall make available, through appropriate means, such information.

Transport Canada, in a letter dated 12 May 2003, addressed to the Director of the IMO's Marine Environment Division, informed that Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) runs a website which contains information on anti-fouling products registered in Canada. It should be noted that organotin paints do not appear on the list of registered products as registration of all such products in Canada was ended on 31 October 2002. The above-mentioned website address is <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pmra-arla/english/intern/intern-e.html>.

IMO Member Governments are encouraged to visit the above-mentioned website and also to provide information in accordance with Article 9(1)(b) of the AFS Convention.

* For the benefit of end-users, and in order that information regarding the AFS Convention can be easily identified and categorized in accordance with its nature, from now on communications received from Member Governments regarding the AFS Convention will be disseminated through the following circular series:

1. Communications regarding the status of the Convention as AFS/Circ...
2. Communications regarding recognized organizations (ROs) as AFS.2/Circ...
3. Communications regarding approved, restricted or prohibited anti-fouling systems as AFS.3/Circ...