



MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS
DEPARTMENT OF MERCHANT SHIPPING
LEMESOS

Circular No. 16/06

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4 August 2006

Owners, Masters, Managers and Representatives of Ships under the Cyprus flag
and of Passenger Ships under any flag entering Cyprus Ports
The Cyprus Shipping Association

**Subject: Directive 2005/33/EC amending Council Directive 1999/32/EC
relating to a reduction in the sulphur content of certain liquid fuels**

I wish to inform you that on 06.07.2005, the European Parliament and the Council issued Directive 2005/33/EC amending Directive 1999/32/EC and your attention is drawn to the following:

1. Article 4a.1 of Directive 1999/32/EC as amended by Directive 2005/33/EC (hereinafter cited together as "the Directive") provides that Member States shall take all necessary measures to ensure that marine fuels are not used in the areas of their territorial seas, exclusive economic zones and pollution control zones falling within SOx Emission Control Areas, if the sulphur content of those fuels exceeds 1,5 % by mass. This shall apply to all vessels of all flags, including vessels whose journey began outside the Community.
2. Pursuant to Article 4a.2 of the Directive, the application dates for the aforementioned shall be as follows:
 - (a) for the Baltic Sea area referred to in regulation 14(3)(a) of Annex VI to MARPOL, 11 August 2006;
 - (b) for the North Sea: 12 months after entry into force of the IMO designation, according to established procedures, or 11 August 2007, whichever is the earlier;
3. Furthermore, Article 4a.4 of the Directive provides that as from **11 August 2006**, Member States shall take all necessary measures to ensure that marine fuels are not used in their territorial seas, exclusive economic zones and pollution control zones by passenger ships operating on regular services to or from any Community port, if the sulphur content of those fuels exceeds 1,5 % by mass. Member States shall be responsible for the enforcement of this requirement at least in respect of vessels flying their flag and vessels of all flags while in their ports.

4. Pursuant to Article 4a.5 of the Directive, as from **11 August 2006**, Member States shall require the correct completion of ships' logbooks, including fuel-changeover operations, as a condition of the ships' entry into Community ports.

To this effect the Owners, Masters, Managers and Representatives of ships under the Cyprus flag and of passenger ships of all flags operating on regular services in Cyprus and other community ports, are hereby requested to comply with all relevant provisions of the Directive.

Serghios S. Serghiou
Director

CC: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism
General Manager, Cyprus Ports Authority
Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad
Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
Inspectors of Cyprus Ships
Cyprus Shipping Council
Cyprus Union of Shipowners
Cyprus Bar Association
Recognized Classification Societies