



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice

No. 2-013-10

Jun/2025

**TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF
MERCHANT SHIPS, AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

**SUBJECT: Implementation of MARPOL Annex I, Chapter 8 – Prevention of Pollution
During Transfer of Oil Cargo Between Oil Tankers at Sea**

References: (a) **MARPOL**, *International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships*, Consolidated Edition 2022
(b) **RMI Marine Guideline 2-11-15**, *Organizations Acting on Behalf of the Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Administrator*

PURPOSE

This Marine Notice (MN) highlights the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator's (the "Administrator") implementation of MARPOL Annex I, Chapter 8 on the transfer of oil cargoes between oil tankers at sea.

This MN supersedes Jul/2021. The email address for Ship to Ship (STS) Operations Plan approval services offered by the Administrator in §1.1 was amended.

APPLICABILITY

This MN applies to RMI-flagged oil tankers of 150 gross tonnage and above engaged in STS operations. Ships exempt from these requirements are listed in MARPOL Annex 1, Regulation 40.

REQUIREMENTS

1.0 STS Operations Plan

- 1.1 Each RMI-flagged oil tanker subject to MARPOL Annex I, Chapter 8 involved in STS operations must carry on board an STS Operations Plan approved by the Administrator (send to shipboard-plans@register-iri.com) or an RMI-authorized Recognized Organization (RO).¹

¹ See RMI Marine Guideline [2-11-15](#).

- 1.2 The STS Operations Plan must meet all of the MARPOL Annex 1, Regulation 41 requirements and be developed taking into account the best practice guidelines identified by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and others.²
- 1.3 Every RMI-flagged oil tanker to which this MN applies must operate in compliance with its approved STS Operations Plan.

2.0 Notification

- 2.1 The advanced notification requirements in MARPOL Annex 1, Regulation 42 must be adhered to when STS operations are planned within the territorial sea, or the exclusive economic zone, of Parties to MARPOL.
- 2.2 National competent authority contact information for notifications is provided in IMO Circulars published under [MSC-MEPC.6](#) (updated quarterly) and the [Global Integrated Shipping Information System](#) Contact Points module.³

² See the latest editions of the IMO's *Manual on Oil Pollution*, Section 1, "Prevention" and the *Ship-to-Ship Transfer Guide for Petroleum, Chemicals, and Liquefied Gases* published by OCIMF, CDI, ICS, and SIGGTO, "Ship-to-Ship Transfer Guide, Petroleum."

³ Registration is free and required for new users.