

Subject:

Entry into Force of MARPOL 73/78

NK TECHNICAL INFORMATION

No. 5

Date: 22 December 1982

To Shipowners and Shipyards concerned,

The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 was formulated in 1973 for the purpose of establishing international requirements for prevention of all marine pollution from ships. The Convention was then substantially amended by the PROTOCOL of 1978 relating to the Convention, and was amalgamated into the PROTOCOL. Therefore, the PROTOCOL covers the Convention and is so abbreviated to MARPOL73/78.

Please be informed that according to the official information from IMO(formerly IMCO), the requirements for entry into force of the PROTOCOL has been fulfilled and MARPOL 73/78 will enter into force internationally on 2nd October, 1983.

A list of the fifteen Contracting States to the PROTOCOL as of 5th October, 1982 is given below:

Uruguay, Peru, United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, United States of America, Tunisia, Liberia, Yugoslavia, Denmark, Colombia, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Italy (15 States).

MARPOL73/78 consists of five Annexes:

- Annex I Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Oil
- Annex II Regulations for the Control of Pollution by Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk
- Annex III Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Harmful Substances carried by Sea in Packaged Forms, or in Freight Containers, Portable Tanks or Road and Rail Tank Wagons
- Annex IV Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships
- Annex V Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Garbage from Ships

Annexes III, IV and V are "Optional Annexes" and some Contracting States may not apply some of such Annexes.

MARPOL73/78 has different application requirements by Annex, but in general applies to both new and existing ships, and not only to big tankers but also to any other kind of ships including small oil tankers down to 150 GT and dry cargo ships down to 400 GT.

The definition of "new" ships is determined either on the date of the building contract (or in its absence the keel laying) and delivery, and is regulated by a fixed calendar date instead of the date of entry into force of the Convention as conventionally done in other safety Conventions such as SOLAS. For example, under Annex I of MARPOL73/78, the ship whose building contract or major conversion contract was signed on or after 1st January, 1976 is a "new" ship. In general, the surveys required by MARPOL73/78 are similar in system with the surveys by 78 SOLAS PROTOCOL (ref. NK Technical Information No.3).

All new ships under MARPOL 73/78 are to comply with the technical requirements of MARPOL73/78 on the date of entry into force of it. This means that a ship which is already in service has no grace period for compliance with the requirements if the ship falls into the "new" ship category under the relative regulations, and such a ship shall fully comply with the requirements on 2nd October, 1983.

This information is given to advise the date of entry into force of MARPOL73/78 for the convenience of the shipowners concerned for prompt preparation for their fleets classed with NK to comply with MARPOL73/78 in time.
