

Subject :

Survey and Certification of MARPOL 73/78

NK TECHNICAL INFORMATION

No. 6

Date: March 3, 1983

To Shipowners & Shipyards concerned,

Annex I to MARPOL 73/78 (Oil Pollution Prevention Convention) will enter into force on 2nd October, 1983 as informed by NK Technical Information No. 5. Regulation 5 of Annex I requires all "new" oil tankers of 150 gross tons and above and all "new" non-oil tankers of 400 gross tons and above, which are engaged in international voyages, to obtain an International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate (IOPP certificate) by 2nd October this year, and all existing ships within one year from that date.

"New Ship" in Regulation 5 is any ship falling into one of the following categories;

- (a) a ship for which building contract is placed after 31 December 1975, or in the absence of a building contract, a ship the keel of which is laid or which is at a similar stage of construction after 30 June 1976,
- (b) a ship, the delivery of which is after 31 December, 1979, or
- (c) a ship which has undergone a major conversion;
 - (i) the contract is placed after 31 December, 1975, or in the absence of a contract, the construction work for the conversion is begun after 30 June 1976, or
 - (ii) the completion is after 31 December, 1979.

At present, only about fifteen Governments are members of MARPOL 73/78 though it will certainly increase shortly. However, it is most likely that these Governments require, after 2nd October this year, foreign "new ships", even the ships flying the flag of a State which is not a party of the Convention, entering their waters to hold valid IOPP certificate or other equivalent certificate (Non-Convention or Compliance Certificate).

For the issue of IOPP certificate, an initial survey is required. If the ship however holds a valid Compliance Certificate or Non-Convention Certificate issued under the name of the ship's flag Government, the extent of the initial survey may be much less than that for the ship which is not holding such certificate.

A number of ships classed with the Society fall into the above "new ship" category. Nevertheless, to date only relatively small number of ships, mostly large oil tankers, have been provided with IOPP certificate or compliance certificate. The Society is always devoting itself to meeting the shipowners' requests to arrange its Surveyors. However, it is observed that quite a number of MARPOL initial surveys have to be undertaken by the Society by 2nd October this year.

(to be cont.)



It is afraid if such surveys may concentrate within a one or two month period before the dead line and the Society may be unable to undertake all the surveys requested, which may cause great inconvenience to the owners. Therefore, the Society sincerely recommends that if you have a "new ship" holding no such certificate or holding it but with items remaining not being inspected, the survey request is to be made to the Society as early as possible.

Liberian Government has asked the Liberian shipowners of the "new ships" to arrange the initial survey for IOPP certificate in conjunction with the ship's safety construction survey (mandatory annual, intermediate, or renewal surveys) but in any case by 2nd October 1983. The Government even sent a special letter of instructions to the individual shipowners, of the "new ship" under (b) category as the first step. The Society issues IOPP certificates to Liberian "new ships".

Japanese Government will shortly ratify MARPOL 73/78 and therefore recommends the shipowners of the "new ships" classed with the Society to submit those ships to the Society for MARPOL 73/78 survey and obtain compliance certificates as early as possible. The Government may require those "new ships" which are engaged in international voyages to hold IOPP certificates by the date of the entry into force of MARPOL 73/78.

Panamanian Government has issued its Resolution recommending the same though the Government's ratification of MARPOL 73/78 delays and may be made in this autumn.

This information is prepared to give advice for early arrangement of MARPOL surveys for the "new ships" to the shipowners concerned.
