

NOTICE TO MARINERS – No. 26 2024

PORT OF GREAT YARMOUTH

USE OF EXHAUST GAS CLEANING SYSTEMS

MARINERS ARE HEREBY ADVISED that Regulation 14 of Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) places limits on the sulphur content of marine fuel oils to control sulphur oxides and particulate matter emissions. Furthermore, from 1 January 2020, the limit for sulphur in fuel oil used on board vessels operating outside designated emission control areas was reduced to 0.50% m/m (mass by mass).

All vessels must meet the requirements of MARPOL Annex VI, Regulation 14 regardless of vessel-size or whether on an international or domestic voyage. MARPOL Annex VI, Regulation 4 enables the use of exhaust gas cleaning systems (EGCS), also known as scrubbers, as an alternative method of compliance with Regulation 14; however, the use of EGCS must not impair or damage the environment, human health, property or resources. Research into the environmental effects of EGCS wash-water is ongoing.

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Vessels using EGCS must operate in accordance with UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency guidance and comply with the criteria set out in Merchant Shipping Notice MSN 1819 (M+F). This note says that the wash water from exhaust gas cleaning systems must not be discharged into any port, harbour or estuary unless it is thoroughly documented that the waste streams will have no adverse impact on the ecosystem of that port, harbour or estuary.

Masters of vessels may be asked from time to time to provide evidence of compliance with MSN 1819 (M+F).

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, within the limits of Great Yarmouth Port & Harbour, vessels may use EGCS; however, operators of terminals and berths within the Harbour may impose their own conditions to restrict the use of EGCS whilst vessels are alongside. Masters of vessels should seek clarification in this connection from the relevant terminal or berth operator

Notice to Mariners No. 22 2024 has now been removed.

On behalf of Harbour Master
30 April 2024

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Limited**

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