



USCG Updates

Review of USCG and EPA's "Listening Session" on VIDA

On May 29th and 30th, 2019, the EPA and USCG held a "Listening Session" on the 2018 Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA) that was signed into law on December 4, 2018. The EPA and USCG provided a general overview of VIDA and a summary of regulatory considerations for specific incidental discharges, including an opportunity for public input. Interested stakeholders can view the slideshow [here](#).

The 2018 VIDA will streamline federal, state, and local vessel discharge regulations. The EPA will develop new national performance standards similar to those in the 2013 Vessel General Permit. The EPA has two years to develop the performance standards (i.e., a deadline of December 4, 2020) after which the USCG has two years to develop implementation, compliance, and enforcement regulations (i.e., a deadline of December 4, 2022). Two important aspects of VIDA include:

- Coverage will be extended to 12 nautical miles from shore instead of 3 nautical miles from shore currently in the 2013 VGP; and
- VIDA established a new Pacific Region with more stringent requirements of ballast water exchange and treatment for vessels carrying low salinity ballast (<18 ppt) that discharge into low salinity ports (<18 ppt).

Until a formal announcement by the EPA and USCG is made, vessels are still required to comply with the current regulations in the 2013 Vessel General Permit and the 2012 USCG Final Rule.

More information on the VIDA regulatory process can be found on the [EPA VIDA](#) and [USCG VIDA](#) websites.

USCG Marine Safety Alert for Working in Confined Spaces

The USCG issued [Marine Safety Alert 04-19](#) as a reminder of the dangers while working in confined spaces such as ballast tanks. Recently three crew members asphyxiated and died while de-ballasting one leg of a Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit with a portable diesel engine driven pump. The Captain also entered the ballast tank without personal protective equipment or Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) in an attempt to rescue the collapsed crew, he managed to escape with assistance from the Rigging Master who was wearing a SCBA, and was airlifted to the hospital.

Rear Adm. John Nadeau Speaks on Scheduled Drydocks

Rear Adm. John Nadeau [briefly discussed](#) ballast water management compliance during an INTERTANKO panel meeting on April 2, 2019. Nadeau talked about the [USCG's recent decision](#) to redefine how the "next scheduled drydocking" is interpreted and gave an overview of the [Vessel Incidental Discharge Act](#). He also said ballast water management compliance exam deficiencies have decreased in 2018 compared to 2017, but the majority of deficiencies are due to inoperable ballast water treatment systems. Nadeau suggested that in cases

where the vessel is not working, the best course of action is to notify the Captain of the Port while the vessel is still offshore to give the vessel owner and USCG sufficient time to develop a contingency plan, if possible.

USCG Type Approvals

The USCG announced issuance of the following USCG Type Approval certificates:

- [17th Type Approval](#) to DESMI Ocean Guard A/S for the CompactClean BWMS
- [18th Type Approval](#) to Wärtsilä Water Systems, Ltd. for the Aquarius UV BWMS
- [19th Type Approval](#) to Alfa Laval Tumba AB for the PureBallast 3.2 BWMS
- [20th Type Approval](#) to Cathelco, Ltd. for the Evolution UV BWMS

The USCG has received the following Type Approval applications:

- EcoBallast BWMS from Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., Ltd. [24th application](#)
- KE-(E)C BWMS by Miura Co., Ltd. [25th application](#)
- Blue Ocean Shield BWMS by COSCO Shipbuilding Industry. [26th application](#)

The USCG has continued to maintain a [current list](#) of approved BWMS and the status of Type Approval applications.

International News

MEPC 74 Summary

The [74th session of the IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee \(MEPC\)](#) was held May 13-17, 2019. A few of the ballast water items addressed include:

- Draft amendments to Regulation E-1 of the BWM Convention to make BWMS Commissioning Testing using indicative analysis mandatory for all installations, with a view to adoption at MEPC 75;
- Invitation for submissions to PPR 7 with proposals for possible revisions to BWM.2/Circ.70 (BWMS Commission Testing Guidance) in light of the draft amendments to Regulation E-1;
- Invited submissions of proposals for development of a standard for verification of BW compliance monitoring systems (i.e., indicative analysis instruments) to PPR 7;
- Minor amendment to the International BWM Certificate form; and
- Approved revisions to the Data gathering and analysis plan, to be circulated as BWM.2/Circ.67/Rev.1.

DNV GL Summarizes IMO Update

DNV GL summarized important [IMO requirements](#) entering into force from 1 July 2018 to 31 May 2021. Some IMO requirements to look for include compliance with the ballast water D-2 standard, ballast water management system installation dates, introduction of the Code for Approval of Ballast Water Management Systems, and revision of Guideline 8 (G8).

Belgium to Test for BWM Compliance

Belgium is to begin [testing vessels](#) calling at its ports and terminals to ensure they can demonstrate compliance with the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention (BWMC), becoming one of the first European nations to enforce the mandate. The Federal Public Service (FPS) Mobility and Transport, the arm of the Belgian government responsible for shipping, will manage the process.

Ukraine Ballast Water Inspections

Ukraine has [revised its regulations](#) for ballast water inspections, temporarily prohibiting inspections of segregated ballast by ecological inspectors in Ukrainian ports until new protocols for sampling and testing of ballast water have been adopted.

China Exempts China and Republic of Korea Vessels from Ballast Water Exchange Requirements

China's Maritime Safety Administration issued a [notice](#) exempting vessels flagged with China or the Republic of Korea (RoK) from conducting ballast water exchange when vessels are

trading between China and the RoK. The notice is based on the [IMO Circular Letter BWM.2/Circ.63](#).

Canada Proposed New Documentation and BWM Discharge Standards

Transport Canada [proposed ballast water regulations](#) to implement new documentation and ballast water discharge standards applicable to Canadian flagged vessels and vessels in Canadian jurisdiction by 2024.

Scientific News

Duke University Study

In a large [survey](#) of ballast water and harbor water, scientists from Duke University used advances in DNA sequencing technology to provide a snapshot of the entire community of organisms. With this information, scientists can accurately identify the source of the ballast water to help surveyors ensure regulations are being followed and harmful species are identified.



Maritime TV Ballast Water Report VIDA HD 1

In this #21 of the Maritime TV's Ballast Water Management Report, Steve Candito discusses the latest "Listening Session" on VIDA.

Ecochlor in the News

Please contact Ecochlor at sales@ecochlor.com to learn how the Ecochlor® BWMS can help your vessels achieve and maintain compliance with international ballast water regulations.

CONFERENCES, EXHIBITS AND PRESENTATIONS

InterManager BWM & Scrubber Conference

September 9, 2019

Speaker: Steve Candito, CEO

Co-sponsored by BEMA

London International Shipping Week

September 9 - 13, 2019

Attending:

Steve Candito, CEO

Andrew Marshall, VP of Business Development

[PUBLISHED NEWS ARTICLES](#)

[Tanker Operator](#)

May/June Issue 2019



In the article, *Ecochlor - Getting ahead of the crowd*, Tanker Operator magazine spoke with CEO Steve Candito about how the company is dealing with the significant increase in orders and other concerns facing a BWMS manufacturer, recent installations, Ecochlor superior service commitment to their clients and professional support toward the growth of BEMA in the industry.

Read the interview [click here](#).

[Maritime Reporter](#)

May Issue 2019



In the May issue of Maritime Reporter, ABS Senior Principal Engineer, William Burroughs' article, *Global Ballast Water Treatment - Trending Toward Compliance* summarizes a recently released ABS report identifying "pathways to the successful operation of ballast water treatment systems, as well as the complex challenges that lay ahead for owners who seek compliance with new emerging regulations." This report took feedback from more than 60 shipowners regarding BWM best practices and concerns.

With reliability of BWMS a growing problem among shipowners, Ecochlor's VP of Operations Pete Thompson addresses specific steps that the engineering department has taken to ensure the Ecochlor BWMS would hold up to their strict durability and endurance standards. To read these articles [click here](#).

[Ballast Water Treatment Technology Guide](#)

May Issue, 2019

How to approach a fleet-wide BWMS retrofit

Scorpio Tankers chose engineering firm Choice Ballast Solution to assist them with 55 retrofits with the Ecochlor BWMS. Learn more about the installations of the first two sister ships, the *STI Duchessa* and *STI Opera*, both were installed in China within five days of each other in early 2019. To read the full article click [here](#).

[Elnavi](#)

May Issue, 2019



Ecochlor Maintains Leadership Role in Ballast Water Management

Interview of Tom Perlich by Elnavi maritime magazine.

Read the entire interview [here](#).

This information is provided in this email by Ecochlor as a courtesy and all regulatory requirements must be verified by the vessel

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