

Guidelines for Ballast Water Management for Pleasure and Search & Rescue Craft

1. APPLICATION

These guidelines apply to all ships, however propelled, which are:

- 1.1. Pleasure craft used solely for recreation or competition or craft used primarily for search and rescue, which make international voyages and which are constructed or designed to carry ballast water,
- 1.2. Less than 50 meters in overall length; and
- 1.3. Carry less than 8 metric tons of ballast water.

2. EXCEPTIONS

All ships to which these Guidelines apply should comply therewith, except when

- 2.1. Prevented by stress of weather;
- 2.2. Necessary for ensuring the safety of the ship in an emergency situation or for saving life at sea.
- 2.3 Conducting Search and Rescue Operations.

3. **BASIC PRINCIPLES.** Ballast water taken up in one area of territorial water shall not be exchanged in the territorial waters of another state unless the distance between the two is less than 200 miles.

4. Whenever Ballast water exchange occurs more than 200 miles from the port of departure in the EEZ of another state this must be done with an efficiency of 95% of volumetric exchange of Ballast water unless the Ballast Water has been treated in accordance with these Guidelines.

5. All ships should, so far as is practicable, avoid the uptake, transfer and discharge of Harmful Aquatic Organisms and Pathogens, as well as sediments that may contain such organisms

6. DISCHARGE OF BALLAST WATER

Ballast water may be discharged in whole or part

- 6.1. within 200 miles of the coast line of the state of the port of departure.
- 6.2. more than 200 miles from the nearest coastline
- 6.3. at any lesser distance from the nearest coast line if it has been treated in accordance with these guidelines.
- 6.4. except as permitted under paragraph 3.1 Ballast Water shall not be discharged within 50 miles of the coastline of the port of final destination unless during the voyage the ship has performed Ballast Water exchange with an efficiency of 95 percent of volumetric exchange of Ballast Water or the Ballast Water has been treated in accordance with these Guidelines.
- 6.5. Ballast water taken up outside a special area should be discharged in a Special Area only if
 - 6.5.1. it has been taken up more than 200 miles from the nearest coast line, or
 - 6.5.2. It has been treated in accordance with these guidelines.

6.6. Ballast water taken up within a Special area may be discharged anywhere within the Special area.

7. TREATMENT OF BALLAST WATER.

7.1. The chemical used in any chemical treatment must be effective

7.1.1. within a short exposure time,

7.1.2. within a salinity range of freshwater to seawater, and

7.1.3. within a temperature range of 4C to 25C

7.2. Before discharge, there should be no remaining toxic effects or persistent metabolites in the discharged ballast water or it should be treated in such a way that the risk of harm to the environment, human health, property and resources has been minimised.

7.3. It is recommended that discharge of treated ballast water be carried out in the open sea where rapid mixing is possible.

8. AREAS TO AVOID

8.1. Ships should avoid, so far as is practicable, uptake of Ballast Water in areas which are:

8.1.1. Known to contain outbreaks, infestations, or populations of Harmful Aquatic Organisms and Pathogens; and

8.1.2. Nearby sewage outfalls

9. CLEANSING OF TANKS.

Ships that do not regularly exchange ballast water shall chemically clean the ballast water tanks every 12 months and properly dispose of any sediment.