

## **Circular 22 / 2010**

**To: All owners, operators and charterers of oil tankers**

**Subject:** Prevention of pollution during transfer of oil cargo between oil tankers at sea – new MARPOL Annex I requirements for STS operations and Plans

**Date: 3 August 2010**

Amendments to MARPOL Annex I (new chapter 8, regulations 40, 41 and 42) regarding prevention of pollution during transfer of oil cargo between oil tankers at sea will enter into force on January 1, 2011.

These regulations will apply to oil tankers of 150 GT and above engaged in the transfer of oil cargo between oil tankers at sea (STS operations) and STS operations conducted on or after April 1, 2012.

They will **not** apply to bunker transfers or to oil transfer operations associated with fixed or floating platforms, including: drilling rigs; floating production, storage and offloading facilities (FPSOs) used for the offshore production and storage of oil; and floating storage units (FSUs) used for the offshore storage of produced oil.

The requirements are as follows:

- Any oil tanker involved in STS operations will be required to have on board an approved STS operations Plan no later than the first annual, intermediate or renewal survey on or after January 1, 2011. Once a Plan is approved, all STS operations will be required to be carried out in accordance with it.
- All STS operations are to be recorded in the oil record book and retained on board for at least three years.
- The person in overall advisory control of STS operations is to be qualified to perform all relevant duties.
- The appropriate authority is to be notified at least 48 hours in advance of any STS operations that will take place within their territorial waters or EEZ. Local or national regulations may specify who the appropriate authority is.

To assist owners and operators in preparing STS Plans, Lloyd's Register has produced a model STS Plan and checklist.

### **How do I use the model STS Plan and checklist?**

Follow these five steps to prepare a Plan for your ship and have it approved:

1. Download the model STS Plan\* [here](#) and the checklist [here](#)
2. Populate the model STS Plan with ship-specific information and procedures; use the checklist to confirm all aspects are covered.
3. Submit your completed Plan to [STS@lr.org](mailto:STS@lr.org) or your nearest Lloyd's Register Group office\*\*
4. Lloyd's Register will send you a Request For Services (RFS); work will commence on receipt of the signed RFS.
5. Lloyd's Register will aim to approve your plan as quickly as possible

\*Other templates can be used but alternative formats may take longer to approve.

**\*\* STS plans should be sent electronically whenever possible. Lloyd's Register will print and return paper copies of approved Plans. Paper copies of Plans should be sent to the appropriate office listed on the following page.**