Lloyd`s Classification Limited

Circular Information

Circular No.: CIR2014-1
Date: 26 December 2014

Subject
Introduction to the Outcomes of MEPC67

To whom it may concern

A summary of the decision taken at the sixty-seventh session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 67) held from 13 to 17 October is provided as below for your information.

1. Ballast Water Management Convention
Ballast Water Management Convention was adopted in 2004 in order to prevent the adverse effects to the marine environment caused by the transfer of ballast water. The Convention will require ships to conduct ballast water exchange offshore or through Ballast Water Management Systems which meet the standard for the discharge of ballast water.
The Convention will enter into force 12 months after ratification by 30 states, representing 35% of the world merchant shipping tonnage.

(1) Ratification of Japan and Turkey
Japan and Turkey ratified Ballast Water Management Convention on 10 October and 14 October respectively. The Convention is ratified by 43 states, representing 32.54%, and it has not yet come into effect.

(2) Approval of Ballast Water Management Systems using active substances
Under the Convention, Ballast Water Management Systems should be type approved by the Administration based on the IMO guideline. In case where "active substances" are used to sterilize harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens, the basic approval of the active substances itself by the IMO and the final approval of the systems by the IMO are needed prior to the type approval by the Administration.

At this session, one (1) basic approval and three (3) final approvals were granted to Ballast Water Management Systems using active substances. Consequently, the number of systems granted final approval by the IMO has reached thirty six (36) in total.
At this moment, the number of systems which can be actually installed on board, i.e. which are type-approved by the Administration, including the systems not using active substances, has reached fifty one (51) in total. The list of the approved systems is available at the following IMO website:

http://www.imo.org/OurWork/Environment/BallastWaterManagement/Pages/BWMTechnologies.aspx