

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No32 – 2021

HARBOUR AND PORT OF MANCHESTER

USE OF EXHAUST GAS CLEANING SYSTEMS

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.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, within the limits of the Harbour and Port of Manchester, closed-loop EGCS and hybrid EGCS operating in closed-loop mode may be used. **However, the use of open-loop EGCS and hybrid EGCS operating in open-loop mode is not permitted.**

The operators of terminals and berths within the Port may impose their own conditions to further restrict the use of EGCS whilst vessels are alongside; however, those operators cannot sanction the use of EGCS contrary to the provisions of this Notice. Masters of vessels should seek clarification in this connection from the relevant terminal or berth operator.

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

Notice to Mariners №30/2020 is withdrawn.