



Notice to Industry

Number 17a

Date of Issue: 30 December 1998

Disposal of Garbage from Vessels

This notice is in addition to the "Notice to Industry No 17 - MARPOL Annex V Placards", dated 17 February 1997.

The International Convention for Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973, best known as MARPOL 73/78, is an important international agreement on the subject of marine pollution. Australia is a signatory to this Convention and, therefore, it is necessary to implement these control measures on all vessels in Western Australia. The introduction of these requirements is intended to enhance the marine environment by reducing the disposal of rubbish, particularly Plastic, into the sea.

Both of the following regulations from MARPOL 73/78, Annex V, apply to commercial vessels in excess of 12 metres in length:

1. All Vessels

Every ship of 12 metres or more in length overall shall display placards which notify the crew and passengers of the disposal requirements of Regulation 3 and 5 of Annex V as applicable.

In the envelope, you will find the relevant placard that is self-adhesive and weatherproof and should be displayed on your vessel in an area where it can be seen by all crewmembers. Alternatively, if you have already fitted or painted a similar notice that adequately describes these requirements, this placard need not be fitted.

2. Vessels Certified to Carry More Than 15 Persons

Every ship of 400 tons gross tonnage and above, and every ship that is certificated to carry 15 persons or more shall carry a garbage management plan that the crew shall follow. This plan shall provide written procedures for collecting, storing, processing and disposing of garbage including the use of any garbage disposal equipment on board. It shall also designate the person in charge of carrying out the plan. Such a plan shall be in accordance with the guidelines developed by the organisation (IMO) and written in the working language of the crew.

The owners of vessels certificated to carry **15 persons** or more are required to develop a garbage management plan.

For most vessels, the garbage management plan will be a simple one-page document that addresses the following points:

- Identifies the person responsible for managing the garbage generated on board.
- Identifies the type and location of facilities for collecting and storing garbage on board.
- Describes procedures for storing garbage on board.
- Describes the operation of any on-board recycling arrangements.
- Describes the requirements for shore based reception facilities, taking into account possible local recycling facilities.
- Describes procedures for disposal of garbage at sea.

The points are taken from a comprehensive document that has requirements for training and the maintenance of on-board processing equipment if an owner requires further information, a copy of the complete document can be provided on request

Marine Surveyors will look for the **placard** and the **management plan** on relevant vessels at future surveys, if you require further information, please contact the Commercial Vessel Safety Branch on telephone no: 9216 8240.

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