



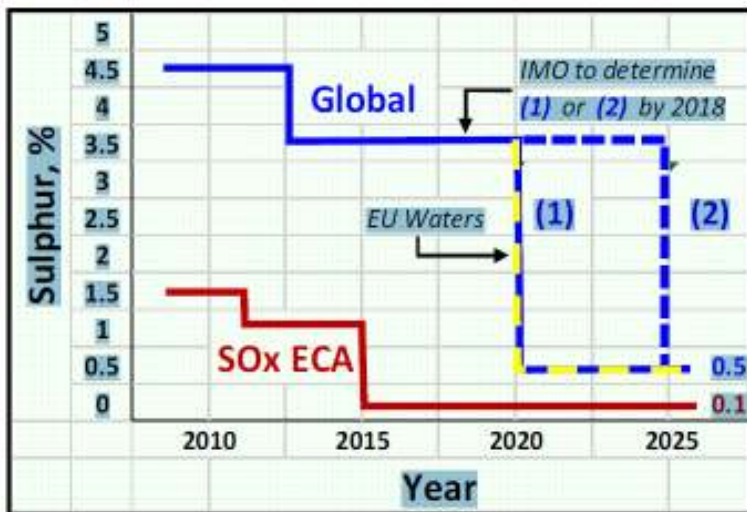
TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 317 of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2016

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	<b>Fuel Oil Issues</b>
Reference:	MARPOL VI, Regulation 14

**FUEL OIL ISSUES**

**Availability of 0.50% Sulphur Limit Fuel**

Under the provisions of MARPOL VI, Regulation 14, a review to determine the availability of fuel oil to meet the global 0.5% sulphur limit in 2020 is to be completed by 2018. Parties to MARPOL Annex VI may then decide if it will be possible for ships to comply with the 2020 date (despite Europe having already done so by the EU Sulphur Directive 2012/33/EU, which EU Member States are obligated to include in their national requirements) based on the results of the review, or if the global 0.5% sulphur limit should be postponed until 2025.



**Fig 7 – SOx Emission Limits**

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MEPC 68 requested the IMO Secretariat to establish a Steering Committee (regionally represented by Member States) to begin the review by 1 September 2015 under agreed terms of reference, with a view to submission of a report to MEPC 70 in October 2016. The demand for compliant fuel oil is to be determined based on bottom-up modeling (fuel consumption and emissions from individual ship movements) and the supply of compliant fuel oil will include geographical fuel availability based on current and projected refinery capacity. Although proposals for new SOx ECAs likely to be implemented before 2020 remain uncertain, SOx ECA's for Mexico and Hong Kong, noted as possibilities, would have additional impact on the availability models for 0.5% sulphur fuel oil. As of 1 January 2015, 0.10% fuel is required when operating in any of the four SOx ECAs (Baltic, North Sea, USA/Canada and USA/Caribbean).

REFERENCES:

- **MARPOL VI, Regulation 14**

ATTACHMENTS: No.

Kindest Regards,  
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