

Maritec Tanker Management Pvt Ltd

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GENERAL CIRCULAR

<u>03/2023</u>

Date: 05th Jun 2023

Subject: Ballast Operations - Mud Accumulation / Flush WBT

To Fleet,

This Circular is particularly being addressed to Vessels calling River ports (Muddy Waters) on a frequent interval, where uptake of ballast in tanks is muddy causing an accumulation of Mud inside the Ballast tanks.

As our Vessels are certified to use BWTS, BWTS is by passed and Ballast taken into tanks is untreated. If Vessel has to use the BWTS at Disport, you may need to carry out a Ballast water exchange out at Sea before proceeding to De-ballast under following conditions

- For De-ballasting, you can De-ballast the water directly into sea.
- But during Ballasting, Kindly ballast tanks using the BWTS. In this way all Ballast in Tanks would be treated ballast, so you do not have any restrictions at Load Port for De-ballasting.

In case Vessel is not able to use the BWTS, kindly refer to General circular 09/2022: **Reporting Requirements for In-operational BWTS.**

Over a period of ballast operations in River ports there is a possibility of Mud Accumulation in the Ballast Tanks. Certain Ports around the world have raised concerns and cautioned our vessels of De-ballasting dirty / muddy water into their ports, which leads to fine and unnecessary complications.

We recommend during every Loaded passage; Vessel's Ballast tanks should be flushed to reduce or avoid mud accumulation. When flushing the tanks have a look on overboard discharge to check if the water is clear or brown muddy.

After flushing (Using Empty / Re-fill method) Water Ballast tanks to inspected condition reported to office.

In case Empty / Re-fill flushing method not providing the required results, then Ship's crew would require entering Ballast tanks to carry out manual flushing in Loaded Passage.

Kindly confirm understanding and compliance.

MARITEC TANKER MANAGEMENT PVT LTD