

**St. Kitts & Nevis  
International Ship  
Registry**

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**Maritime Circular to Maritime Registrars, Shipowners, Masters, Managers & Operators of St. Kitts & Nevis Ships, Classification Societies, Recognised Organisations, Recognised Security Organisations, Surveyors of Ships & Flag State Inspectors to this Administration, Seafarers & IMO Member States**

**Maritime Circular No.MC/33/10**

**DATE: 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**Ship to – Ship Operations Plans – Amendments to the MARPOL Annexe 1, Addition of a new Chapter 8**

The Marine Environment Protection Committee at its 59<sup>th</sup> Session adopted Resolution MEPC (59) "Amendments to the MARPOL Annexe 1, addition of a New Chapter 8" which will enter into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011.

This new chapter 8 on Prevention of Pollution during transfer of oil cargo between oil tankers at sea is applied to oil tankers of 150 GT and above and requires all oil tankers involved in oil cargo ship to ship operations to have a plan prescribing how to conduct STS operations (the STS plan) on board. In addition notification to the relevant coastal state is required not less than 48 hours in advance of the scheduled STS operations within the territorial sea or the exclusive economic zone (ZEE). As stipulated in regulation 41 of the new chapter 8, "each oil tankers STS operations plan shall be approved by the Administration".

Ship owners and managers who require their STS plan to be approved by this Administration should contact a Recognised Organisation (Class Society) which has an Agreement for the Delegation of Statutory Services with this Administration to arrange approval of the STS plan. By this Maritime Circular, we give notice that all Recognised Organisations who have an Agreement with this Administration for the Delegation of Statutory Services are hereby authorised to conduct STS plan approval in accordance with the Convention requirements.

Separate approval by this Administration is therefore not required.

Yours truly,

Nigel E Smith  
International Registrar of Shipping and Seamen

