



Virgin Islands Shipping Registry

1st Floor Ritter House • Wickham's Cay II • P.O. Box 4751 • Road Town • Tortola

Virgin Islands VG1110

Tel: +1 284 468 9646

Website: www.bvimaritime.vg • Email: vishipping@bvimaritime.vg

Marine Circular 06/2021

Use of Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems

Notice to all Shipowners, Operators, Agents, Masters and Officers of Merchant Ships, Authorized Classification Societies and Surveyors.

SUMMARY:

This Marine Circular is to provide guidance on the use of Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) in all British Virgin Islands jurisdictional waters including, territorial sea, contiguous zone and exclusive economic zone.

1. Background

- 1.1 The purpose of this Marine Circular is to provide guidance on the British Virgin Island's approach to compliance with respect to the use of Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) under the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) Regulation 2008 (as amended).
- 1.2 This Marine Circular should be read in conjunction with the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Annex VI and IMO 2015 Guidelines for Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems adopted by resolution IMO MEPC.259(68).
- 1.3 The maximum allowed sulphur content in fuel for combustion purposes is 0.5% m/m.
- 1.4 The discharge of wash water from Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) is prohibited in the British Virgin Islands (BVI). This is to maintain the standard of marine water quality.

2. Application

This Marine Circular is applicable to:

- 2.1 All seagoing British Virgin Islands flagged vessels.
- 2.2 All foreign flagged vessels visiting British Virgin Islands waters.

3. Discharging of Open Loop Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) wash water.

- 3.1 Discharging of wash water from open loop mode EGC systems (Scrubber) is prohibited when ships are within BVI waters. This prohibits the discharge of wash water generated by open loop scrubbers in all jurisdictional waters including, territorial sea, contiguous zone and exclusive economic zone of BVI.

4. The residues/sludges from Open Loop, Closed Loop and Hybrid Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems

- 4.1 The residues/sludges arising from exhaust gas cleaning systems and wash waters produced by the Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) must be stored onboard as waste and should not be incinerated onboard or discharged to sea until outside of British Virgin Islands' waters.

Director of Shipping