

Mandatory Fuel Switch at Berth Requirement for Ocean Going Vessels

Consultation

**Environmental Protection Department
February 2013**



Overview

- * Aim of Consultation
- * Background
- * New Initiatives in Policy Address 2013 to Control Marine Emissions
- * Details of Mandatory Fuel Switch at Berth

Aim

- * To seek views from trade on introducing mandatory fuel switch requirement for ocean going vessels (OGVs) at berth in Hong Kong waters for drafting the legislation

Background (1)

- * Marine vessels have become a major local air pollution source, being the largest source of respirable suspended particulates, nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide
- * The emissions of ocean going vessels (OGVs) while at berth account for 40% of their total emissions within Hong Kong waters.
- * Requiring OGVs to switch to low sulphur diesel while berthing will reduce marine emission substantially and improve the air quality in ports and nearby areas.

Fuel Switch At Berth – Milestones

Trade's voluntary
Fair Winds Charter

2011-2013



3-year Port Facilities
and Light Dues
Incentive Scheme

Transition
measure



Mandatory
requirement

New Initiatives in Policy Address 2013 to Control Marine Emissions

- * New initiatives to control marine emissions :
 1. to mandate fuel switch at berth within Hong Kong waters;
 2. to seek funding from LegCo to install onshore power facilities in Kai Tak Cruise Terminals;
 3. promoting cleaner marine light diesel for local vessels, and conducting a trial and consulting the trades;
 4. step up efforts with Guangdong Government to explore jointly introducing fuel switch at berth in PRD ports for maximizing the environmental benefits in PRD Region.

Requirement for Fuel Switch at Berth (1)

- * All ocean going vessels (OGVs) must switch from heavy fuel oil to low sulphur diesel while berthing in Hong Kong waters for their auxiliary engines, generators and boilers.

Definition

- * **OGVs** - not a local vessel as described in Merchant Shipping (Local Vessel) Ordinance Cap 548 and not plying exclusively within river-trade limits
- * **At Berth** - vessels being moored at buoys, anchorages, wharfs, terminals or dockyard

Requirement for Fuel Switch at Berth (2)

- * **Low sulphur diesel-** Diesel with sulphur content not more than 0.1%

Note: : We are preparing to tighten up the fuel sulphur content of marine light diesel supply to Hong Kong to 0.05% (500 ppm) [current sulphur content is 0.5% / 5000 ppm]

- * **Fuel Switchover:** OGVs have to complete fuel switchover before arriving berth, i.e. switchover from heavy fuel oil to low sulphur diesel; and switch back to heavy fuel oil after departure from berth. Shipmaster has to record the fuel switchover time in the Engine Room Log Book

Fuel Switch at Berth - Exemption

- * EU would provide exemption under the following circumstances. We will consider carefully whether to provide such exemption in our proposed regulation
 - OGVs according to published timetables, are due to be at berth for less than two hours ;
 - OGVs adopt alternative emission control technologies which are equivalent or better than using low sulphur diesel in terms of emission reduction, e.g. onshore power, scrubber or Liquidified Nature Gas (LNG).
 - OGVs that cannot switch to low sulphur diesel on safety grounds
- * Shipmaster must obtain written approval from Marine Department before entering Hong Kong waters.

Fuel Switch at Berth - Enforcement

- * We will request shipmaster to present the original Bunker Delivery Note of low sulphur diesel and Engine Room Log Book to prove vessels have switched to low sulphur fuel while berthing
- * Upon reasonable doubt, we will take fuel samples, including the retained sample required under Annex VI of MARPOL and fuel sample in oil tank.

Fuel Switch at Berth - Penalty

- * Prepare a new regulation under Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311)
- * Offender is liable to a fine up to \$200,000 and to imprisonment for six months. We will also consider to ban vessels that have breached this regulation multiple times from entering to Hong Kong

Legislative Timetable

- * We plan to submit our proposal to Legislative Council in the next legislative session following the completion of consultation with the maritime sector.

Thanks for your comments!

You can send us your views and comments by any of the means below-

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