



№ 13/CIRC/FSI

2022 / 06 /24

To: All Owners, Managers and Representatives of Ships flying
Georgia Flag, Masters and Officers, Recognized Organizations,
Flag State Inspectors, Recognized Agent

Subject: Commissioning Test of Ballast Water Management Systems Installed on Georgian Flagged Ships

Reference:

- **The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention), as amended;**
- **IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.70/Rev.1, 2020 Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems, adopted on 09 December 2020;**
- **IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.2, 2020 Guidance on ballast water sampling and analysis for trial use in accordance with the BWM Convention and Guidelines (G2), adopted on 09 December 2020.**

1. Purpose:

1.1 The Purpose of this Circular is to provide specific guidance for recognized organizations (RO), shipowners, ship managers, operators and other and relevant parties regarding the application of the relevant requirements concerning Commissioning Test of Ballast Water Management Systems.

2. Context:

2.1 The purpose of the commissioning test is to verify that the mechanical, physical, chemical and biological processes of the installed BWMS are working properly, taking into account guidelines developed by the IMO (BWM.2/Circ.70-Rev.1), the commissioning test is not intended to validate the type approval of the BWMS.

2.2 The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) approved the proposed amendments to regulation E-1.1.1 and E-1.1.5 of the Ballast Water Management Convention (BWM Convention) which **entered in force 01 June 2022**. The amendments require an installed ballast water management system (BWMS) to undergo a commissioning test during the initial, or additional, survey.

2.3 The commissioning testing should be carried out in accordance with the Annex of (BWM.2/Circ.70-Rev.1) Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems.

2.4 The commissioning test shall be carried out for BWMS that are installed on board of Georgian Flagged Ships¹.

2.5 The ballast water samples collected for the commissioning test should be a representative sample, analyzed using at least an appropriate indicative analysis method². The commissioning test is considered to be successful if the analysis indicates that the sample does not exceed the D-2 standard and the self monitoring equipment of the BWMS indicates correct operation of all sensors and related equipment.

3. Contact Details:

3.1 Recognized Organizations, Ship owner, Ship Operator or Management Company of a ship flying the Georgian flag, may contact MTA for additional consultation and assistance.

¹*Ships that are required to meet the D2 performance standards as per Ballast Water Management Convention Regulation B3.*

²*List of indicative analysis methods are listed in table 3 of BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.2.*

Attachments:

Annex I - IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.70/Rev.1, 2020 Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems, adopted on 09 December 2020;

Annex II - IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.2, 2020 Guidance on ballast water sampling and analysis for trial use in accordance with the BWM Convention and Guidelines (G2), adopted on 09 December 2020.

Director

SIGNED/SEALED
ELECTRONICALLY 

Tamar Ioseliani

