



№ 24/CIRC/FSI

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

Subject : Guidelines for the use of Electronic Record Books under MARPOL for Ships Flying the Georgian Flag

Reference:

- SOLAS, International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, Consolidated Edition 2014, as amended
- MARPOL, International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, Consolidated Edition 2017, as amended
- NOx Technical Code, Code on Control of Emission of Nitrogen Oxides from Marine Diesel Engines
- IMO Resolution MEPC.314(74), Amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II, and V (Electronic Record Books), adopted 17 May 2019
- IMO Resolution MEPC.316(74), Amendments to MARPOL Annex VI Electronic Books and EEDI regulations for ice-strengthened ships, adopted 17 May 2019
- IMO Resolution MEPC.317(74), Amendments to the NOx Technical Code 2008 (Electronic Record Books and Certification requirements for SCR systems), adopted 17 May 2019
- Maritime Code of Georgia

1. Purpose:

1.1 The circular is to inform the owners, operators, managers and masters of the ships registered in the State Ships Registry of Georgia regarding the requirements for using Electronic Record Books under MARPOL and other logbook systems to electronically record required operations.

2. Introduction:

2.1 A key element of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) regulations is the recording of discharges associated with the prevention of pollution from ships. A number of MARPOL Annexes require the recording of particular discharges.

2.2 The format for the recording of discharges under MARPOL is provided in the appendixes to the relevant MARPOL Annexes. Traditionally, the format of these record books has been provided in hard copy by the Administration. However, as companies and shipowners increasingly focus on ways to operate in an environmentally responsible manner and aim to reduce the heavy burden associated with paperwork through electronic means, the concept of operational logs in an electronic format has become a popular consideration.

3. Background:

3.1 IMO adopted amendments to MARPOL and the NOx Technical Code allowing Electronic Record Books to be used instead of hard copy record books.

3.2 The amendments enters into force from October 1, 2020.

4. Application:

4.1 The requirements applies to all ships registered in the State Register of Ships of Georgia which are engaged in international navigation

and use MARPOL Electronic Record Books or other logbook systems to electronically record required operations.

4.2 According to MARPOL, electronic Record Book means a device or system, approved by the Administration, used to electronically record the required entries for discharges, transfers and other operations as required under this Annex in lieu of a hard copy record book."

4.3 For ships flying under the Georgian flag, the obligation to use Electronic Record Books is not mandatory. The use of this system is deemed to be voluntary for ship-owners.

5. Electronic Record Books and electronic logbooks approval requirements:

5.1 Electronic record and logbooks are permitted to be used under the Maritime code of Georgia and they must be approved by the Agency only when required by international convention.

5.2 Electronic Record Books and electronic logbooks must take into consideration all relevant international standards.

5.3 Electronic Record Books and electronic logbooks Approval will be based on the software conforming with IMO Resolution MEPC.312(74), Guidelines for the use of electronic record books under MARPOL.

5.4 The list of approved MARPOL Electronic Record Book software will be published by the Agency on its web-page.

5.5 In case of the approval, all concerning party can contact the following addresses. fsi@mta.gov.ge or info@mta.gov.ge

6. MARPOL Electronic Record Books:

6.1 The use of an electronic record book to record operational logs is an alternative method to a hard copy record book. The electronic record book may allow ships to utilize their technology to reduce administrative burdens and contribute to on board environmental initiatives, e.g. reduction of paper use.

6.2 Electronic Record Books may be used on board to meet the following record book and recording requirements under the MARPOL Annexes and the NOx Technical Code:

6.2.1 Oil Record Book, parts I and II (MARPOL Annex I, Reg: 17.1 and 36.1);

6.2.2 Cargo Record Book (MARPOL Annex II, Reg: 15.1);

6.2.3 Garbage Record Book, parts I and II (MARPOL Annex V, Reg: 10.3);

6.2.4 Ozone-depleting Substances Record Book (MARPOL Annex VI, Reg: 12.6);

6.2.5 Recording of the tier and on/off status of marine diesel engines (MARPOL Annex VI, Reg: 13.5.3);

6.2.6 Record of Fuel Oil Changeover (MARPOL Annex VI, Reg: 14.6);

6.2.7 Record Book of Engine Parameters (NOX Technical Code, paragraph 6.2.2.7).

7. Onboard Declaration:

7.1 Every ship registered in the State Ships Registry of Georgia with an approved MARPOL Electronic Record Books installed must carry a 'Declaration of MARPOL Electronic Record Book(s)'.

7.2 The declaration of MARPOL Electronic Record Book shall be issued by the Agency.

7.3 For onboard declaration, Shipowner, ship operator or management company of a ship flying the Georgian flag, shall apply with approved application to MTA on the following addresses: fsi@mta.gov.ge or info@mta.gov.ge

7.4 The Agency will provide the ship with a 'Declaration of MARPOL Electronic Record Book' as proof of the ship's compliance with Flag state requirements.

8. Documentation for Port State Control:

8.1 The MARPOL Electronic Record Books must have the capability to produce a hard copy of verified records for the Master to certify as a true copy on request from relevant authorities.

8.2 The following documentation must be carried on board and be presented upon request during a port State control boarding or other authorized vessel inspection:

8.2.1 The Agency Declaration for use of the MARPOL Electronic Record Books.

8.2.2 For systems other than MARPOL Electronic Record Books, a declaration from the supplier's installation contractor, that the system is installed according to current regulations, is performance tested, and found in full functioning order.

8.2.3 If a declaration or written authorization cannot be provided, a hard copy record must be presented for examination.

8.2.4 Evidence that the MARPOL Electronic Record Books or other electronic logbooks are implemented in the ship's International Safety Management system (SMS).

9. Transitional Provisions:

9.1 The mentioned circular enters into force **from January 1, 2021.**

10. Contact Details:

10.1 Shipowner, ship operator or management company of a ship flying the Georgian flag, for additional consultations and assistance regarding Electronic Record Books may contact the Agency:

LEPL – Maritime Transport Agency of Georgia
Ships Registry and Flag Control Department
Tel: +995 (422) 274925 E-mail: fsi@mta.gov.ge
Hotline/AOH: +995 (577) 2216

Attachments:

Annex I - Application for declaration of MARPOL electronic record books

Annex II - [Resolution MEPC.312\(74\) – Guidelines for the use of Electronic Record Books under MARPOL](#) Annex III - [Resolution MEPC.314\(74\) – Amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II and V \(Electronic Record Books\)](#) Annex IV - [Resolution MEPC.316\(74\) – Amendments to MARPOL Annex VI \(Electronic Record Books and EEDI regulations for ice-strengthened ships\)](#)

Annex V - [Resolution MEPC.317\(74\) – Amendments to the NOx Technical Code 2008 \(Electronic Record Books and Certification requirements for SCR systems\)](#)

Director

SIGNED/SEALED
ELECTRONICALLY 

Tamar Ioseliani

