

HOW THE **POLAR CODE** PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT

OIL



DISCHARGES

Discharge into the sea of oil or oily mixtures from any ship is prohibited



STRUCTURE

Double hull and double bottom required for all oil tankers, including those less than 5,000dwt (A/B ships constructed on or after 1 January 2017)



HEAVY FUEL OIL

Heavy fuel oil is banned in the Antarctic (under MARPOL). Ships are encouraged not to use or carry heavy fuel oil in the Arctic



LUBRICANTS

Consider using non-toxic biodegradable lubricants or water-based systems in lubricated components outside the underwater hull with direct seawater interfaces

INVASIVE SPECIES



INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES

Measures to be taken to minimize the risk of invasive aquatic species through ships' ballast water and biofouling

SEWAGE



DISCHARGES I

No discharge of sewage in polar waters allowed (except under specific circumstances)



TREATMENT PLANTS

Discharge is permitted if ship has an approved sewage treatment plant, and discharges treated sewage as far as practicable from the nearest land, any fast ice, ice shelf, or areas of specified ice concentration



DISCHARGES II

- Sewage not comminuted or disinfected can be discharged at a distance of more than 12nm from any ice shelf or fast ice
- Comminuted and disinfected sewage can be discharged more than 3nm from any ice shelf or fast ice

GARBAGE



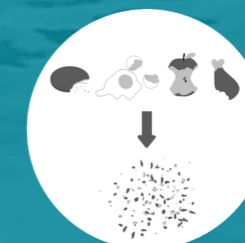
PLASTICS

All disposal of plastics prohibited (under MARPOL)



FOOD WASTES I

Discharge of food wastes onto the ice is prohibited



FOOD WASTES II

Food wastes which have been comminuted or ground (no greater than 25mm) can be discharged only when ship is not less than 12nm from the nearest land, nearest ice shelf, or nearest fast ice



ANIMAL CARCASSES

Discharge of animal carcasses is prohibited



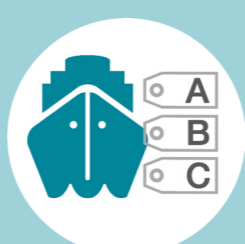
CARGO RESIDUES

Cargo residues, cleaning agents or additives in hold washing water may only be discharged if: they are not harmful to the marine environment; both departure and destination ports are within Arctic waters; and there are no adequate reception facilities at those ports. The same requirements apply to Antarctic area under MARPOL

BACKGROUND INFO

- ❄️ THE INTERNATIONAL CODE FOR SHIPS OPERATING IN POLAR WATERS WILL ENTER INTO FORCE ON 1 JANUARY 2017
- ❄️ IT APPLIES TO SHIPS OPERATING IN ARCTIC AND ANTARCTIC WATERS: ADDITIONAL TO EXISTING MARPOL REQUIREMENTS
- ❄️ IT PROVIDES FOR SAFE SHIP OPERATION AND PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT BY ADDRESSING THE UNIQUE RISKS PRESENT IN POLAR WATERS BUT NOT COVERED BY OTHER INSTRUMENTS

DEFINITIONS



SHIP CATEGORIES

Three categories of ship designed to operate in polar waters in:

- A) at least medium first-year ice
- B) at least thin first-year ice
- C) open waters/ice conditions less severe than A and B



FAST ICE: Sea ice which forms and remains fast along the coast, where it is attached to the shore, to an ice wall, to an ice front, between shoals or grounded icebergs

ICE SHELF: A floating ice sheet of considerable thickness showing 2 to 50m or more above sea-level, attached to the coast

CHEMICALS



DISCHARGES

Discharge of noxious liquid substances (NLS) or mixtures containing NLS is prohibited in polar waters