

GHANA



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MARITIME CIRCULAR

Shipping Notice No: 019

**PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MARINE
POLLUTION FROM SHIPS**

RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF OPEN LOOP SCRUBBERS

The Ghana Maritime Authority wishes to bring this Notice to the attention of all Ship Owners, Ship Operators, Ship Managers, Port Operators and the Shipping Community that the discharge of wash water from *open-loop exhaust gas scrubbers* in Ghanaian ports and territorial sea is prohibited.

By this Notice, vessels fitted with open-loop scrubbers calling at Ghana are to use compliant fuels while vessels fitted with hybrid scrubbers are required to switch to the closed-loop mode of operation. This measure is to protect the marine environment and ensure that our ports and territorial waters are clean.

This Notice is in line with Maritime Circular (Shipping Notice No. 012) issued by the Ghana Maritime Authority with regards to Regulation 14.1.3 of MARPOL Annex VI on the sulphur content of fuel oil used on board ships not exceeding 0.50% m/m.

This Notice is issued in accordance with section 479 A of the Ghana Shipping (Amendment) Act, 2011(Act 826), which mandates the Authority to issue Maritime Circulars for the purpose of disseminating relevant information on maritime safety, security, marine pollution prevention and other relevant maritime matters.

By this Notice, all Ship Owners, Ship Operators, Managers, Port Operators, and the Shipping Community are required to comply with the provisions of the Notice accordingly.

Please note that Ghana as a party to MARPOL Annex VI, is taking the necessary steps to provide adequate reception facilities for the collection of residues generated from the operation of scrubbers.


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