



INTERNATIONAL SHIP CLASSIFICATION

10 Anson Road, #25-01 International Plaza Singapore 079903

Tel: +65 6225 2565 Fax: +65 6225 2265

Email: info@isclass.com Website: www.isclass.com



CERT. NO.: FS 504144
BS EN ISO 9001 : 2000

To : All Offices
From : General Manager (ISClass)
Date : 24 April 2008
Ref : CIR08/0004

Subject: Implementation of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling systems on Ships (AFS Convention)

To all concern

1. The International Convention on Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships (AFS Convention) was adopted on 5 October 2001 by IMO and will enter into force internationally on **17 September 2008**.
2. Under the terms of AFS convention, Parties to the Convention are required to prohibit and /or restrict the use of harmful anti-fouling systems on ships flying their flag, as well as ships not entitled to fly their flag but operate under their authority and all ships that enter a port , shipyard or offshore terminal of a Party.
3. The requirements of AFS Convention will apply to:
 - (a) Ships of 400 GT and above engaged in international voyages (excluding fixed or floating platforms, FSUs and FPSOs) will be required to undergo an initial survey before the ship is put into service or before the International Anti-fouling System Certificate is issued for the first time; and a survey when the anti fouling systems are changed or replaced.
 - (b) Ships of 24 meters or more in length but less than 400 GT engaged in international voyages (excluding fixed or floating platforms, FSUs and FPSOs) will have to carry a Declaration of Anti-fouling Systems signed by the owner or authorized agent. The declaration will have to be accompanied by appropriate documentation such as a paint receipt or contractor invoice.
 - (c) Ships engaged in non- international voyages (irrespective of their sizes), should comply with the measures similar to (b) above which will be required by Flag State Administration parties to the Convention.

4 . Ship Owners and Mangers whose vessels does not have the “Statement Of Compliance (SOC)” of the Convention should obtain the SOC prior entry into force on **17 September 2008** . The issue of the “SOC” is intended as an interim measure on a non-mandatory basic pending the entry into force of the AFC convention and the necessary local legislation to implement the compliance of AFS convention locally.

5 . The Administrations shall be informed the procedures to change the certificate from SOC to obtain the International Anti-Fouling System Certificate (IAFS) in due course. Once issued, the IAFS certificate will be validated until the vessel change her antifouling painting scheme or recoated the hull or change of ownership of the vessel. Endorsement of IAFS certificate shall be in accordance with Resolution MEPC 102(48) – Guidelines for Survey and Certification of Anti-fouling System of Ships.

Appendix : Sample of IAFS Certificate and Declaration of Anti-fouling system.