



PREVENTION AT SEA

CIRCULAR 11/2019

“SINGLE-USE PLASTICS ONBOARD SHIPS”



Don't Cure,
PREVENT

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS ONBOARD SHIPS

BACKGROUND

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS are also known as disposable plastics like plastic bags, straws, coffee stirrers, soda and water bottles and food packaging, which are used only once before they are thrown away or recycled.

In the 2018 UNEP report titled “Single-use plastics - A Roadmap for Sustainability”, it is stated that the ubiquitous nature of plastic for being one of the greatest environmental challenges that choke marine life transforming some Marine areas into a Plastic soup. According to International Maritime Organization, Marine litter presents a huge problem in our oceans, with some scientists warning that, by 2050, the quantity of plastics in the oceans will outweigh fish.

Vessels are obliged to deposit plastic waste at reception facilities ashore and MARPOL requires Port State signatories to provide adequate and appropriate reception facilities. The crew must keep a log of garbage disposal that can be reviewed by the Flag States or Port States. Penalties for violation of the regulations are, in many countries, severe. Violations may even be prosecuted criminally.

INDIA BAN

India has decided to act on reducing plastic litter pollution and has introduced a ban on the use of single-use plastics onboard calling vessels.

The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DGS), Ministry of Shipping India has issued DGS Order No. 05 of 2019 imposing a ban on single use plastics on Indian flagged ships and foreign flagged ships that call to any port or place in India and during their passage through India's territorial sea. **The ban takes effect in two stages as follows:**

1. SINGLE-USE PLASTIC ITEMS PROHIBITED WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT:

- Cutlery, plates and cups
- Up to 10 litre bottles for water and other drinks
- Garbage and shopping bags
- Dispensing containers for cleaning fluids which are less than 10 litre

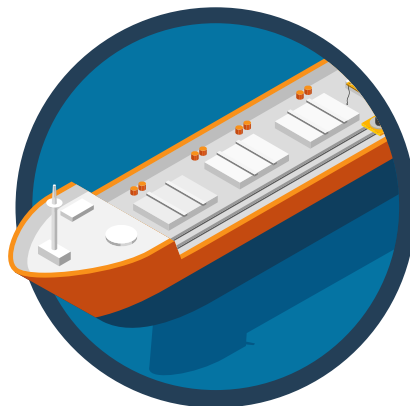
2. TAKING EFFECT FROM 1ST JANUARY 2020, THE FOLLOWING SINGLE-USE PLASTICS ARE PROHIBITED:

- Bags, trays, containers, food packaging film
- Milk bottles, freezer bags, shampoo bottles, ice cream containers
- Bottles for water and other drinks, dispensing containers for cleaning fluids, biscuit trays and shopping bags
- Hot drink cups, insulated food packaging, protective packaging for fragile items
- Microwave dishes, ice cream tubs, potato chip bags, bottle caps

ENFORCEMENT

- Single-use plastic items must be securely stored prior to entering Indian territorial waters.
- A foreign ship intending to enter an Indian port (as defined in Article 11 of UNCLOS), is required to make a log entry identifying the "Single Use Plastic Items" on board the ship and stating the time, latitude and longitude "when" along with the location of the store where these items are stored prior entering Indian territorial waters.
- Port State Inspectors will board foreign flag ships to ensure that single use plastics are not in use and are kept locked in a store during the ships stay in Indian ports and during the ships passage through the territorial waters of India.
- No single use plastic items are to be discharged to port reception facility at an Indian port. This will be verified during Port State inspections.
- No detention of foreign ships to is to be enforced. In case it is found necessary, after uploading all other deficiencies on Indian Ocean Port State Control (PSC) Memorandum of Understanding, Computer Information System website, a handwritten deficiency in the printed PSC Form 'B' (to be rectified prior departure) may be issued.
- Regulation 3.2 of MARPOL Annex V prohibits the discharge of all plastics into the sea. When plastic is mixed with other garbage, the mixture must be treated as if it were all plastic. The most stringent procedures for the handling and discharge should be followed taking into account the applicable provisions of the garbage management plan.

NOTE: THE STATE OF KUWAIT HAS DECIDED TO ADOPT A SIMILAR BAN TO INDIA, WHICH WILL ALSO TAKE EFFECT IN TWO STAGES. ONE WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT AND THE OTHER FROM 1ST JANUARY 2020.



OUR SUGGESTION

Referring to the regulation 3.2 of MARPOL Annex V and in order to assist further, 'Prevention at Sea' suggests the following items to be considered in order to reduce use of plastics onboard the ships:

- Placards / Posters should be displayed in the working language of vessel's crew to promote awareness on the reduction of plastics use.
- Using supplies that come in bulk packaging, taking into account factors such as adequate shelf-life (once a container is opened) to avoid increasing garbage associated with such products.
- Using supplies that come in reusable or recyclable packaging and containers.
- Avoiding the use of disposable cups, utensils, dishes, towels and rags and other convenience items whenever possible.
- Avoiding supplies that are packaged in plastic, unless reusable or recyclable plastic is used.
- Materials prohibited from being disposed of at sea should be stowed in suitable receptacles before being delivered ashore.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO REDUCE
SINGLE-USE PLASTICS?

Don't Cure Prevent

Circular 11/2019



FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US.



Prevention at Sea Ltd
52 Arch. Makariou III Avenue,
Ydrogios Tower, CY 6017
Larnaca - Cyprus

Tel: +357 24819800
Fax: +357 24819881



Tel: +30 210 64 37 637



info@preventionatsea.com



www.preventionatsea.com

CIRCULAR 11/2019