



MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

PORT MARINE CIRCULAR  
NO. 57 OF 1998

12 Sept 98

Shipping Community  
Harbour Craft Community

**GAS-FREE CERTIFICATE FOR VESSELS SHIFTING OUT OF THEIR DESIGNATED ANCHORAGES OR PROCEEDING TO A SHIPYARD**

1 Masters, owners and agents of vessels are reminded that any vessel which has carried bulk dangerous substances or petroleum as a whole or part of her last cargo is required to be certified free from flammable vapour by the MPA Chemist prior to shifting out of her designated anchorage for another anchorage in port or going to a shipyard. The gas-free certificate issued is to be kept onboard the vessel for inspection by any authorised officer of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore.

2 The above shall not apply in the case of a vessel proceeding to a petroleum or special anchorage, an oil terminal, or any of the terminals listed in the attached Appendix I .

3 We wish to draw your attention to the Factories (Shipbuilding and Ship-Repairing) Regulations which also impose certain duties on master, owner or agent of a vessel. You are advised to acquaint yourselves with the Regulations. A Ministry of Manpower circular on this is attached for your information as Appendix II.

4 Port Marine Circular No. 21 of 1994 is hereby cancelled.

LIM KHOK CHENG  
for PORT MASTER  
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

TEL NO. 3252471  
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## Appendix I

### **Terminals at:**

Pulau Sebarok (Singapore Cleanseas Pte Ltd)

Pulau Sebarok (Singapore Petroleum Co Ltd)

Pulau Sebarok (Van Ommeren Tank Terminal (Singapore) Pte Ltd)

Pulau Seraya (Oiltanking Singapore)

Pulau Bukom (Shell Eastern Petroleum (Pte) Ltd)

Tanjong Penjuru- Shell Tanker Jetty (Shell Refinery)

Pulau Busing (Tankstore Limited)

Tanjong Penjuru (Caltex Group of Companies)

Tanjuru Penjuru (GATX Terminal (Pte) Ltd)

Jurong- Tg Sakunyit & Pulau Pesek (Mobil Refinery)

Pulau Ayer Chawan (Esso Refinery)

Pulau Merlimau (Singapore Refining Co (Pte) Ltd)

Pulau Ayer Merbau (Petrochemical Corporation of Singapore)



**Department of Industrial Safety**

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Your Ref :

Our Ref : CIF/ A32.1.1

Date : 1 September, 1998

All Shipping Agents, Owners  
and Master of Vessels

Dear Sir

**THE FACTORIES (SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING) REGULATIONS**

The Factories (Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing) Regulations came into operation on 1 June 1994. The Regulations were subsequently amended on 1 May 1997.

2 The Regulations stipulated detailed safety measures to enhance the safety of workers on board vessel undergoing repairs or construction in shipyards. The Regulations are also applicable to any work carried out on board a ship in a harbour in connection with:

- (i) the construction, re-construction, repair, refitting, painting, finishing or breaking up a ship;
- (ii) the scaling, scurfing or cleaning of boilers in a ship; or
- (iii) the cleaning of any tank, bilges or holds in a ship.

3 Some of the provisions of the Regulations impose duties on master, owner or agent of a vessel. The more important provisions are listed below for your information :

(i) Notification of work- Regulation 6

The master, owner or agents of a vessel must notify the Chief Inspector of Factories (Department of the Industrial Safety, Ministry of Manpower) at least 3 days prior to the commencement of any work such as tank cleaning, repairs, re-fitting, reconstruction which is to be carried out on board a vessel in a harbour.

(ii) Appointment of Safety Supervisor – Regulation 20

Every contractor who employs more than 20 persons to carry out work on a ship in the harbour must appoint a safety supervisor to promote safety and ensure that the Regulations are complied with.

(iii) Appointment of Safety Co-ordinator- Regulation 21

The master, owner or agent of a ship must appoint a safety co-ordinator to promote safety and ensure that the Regulations are complied with and co-ordinate all work so that they can be carried out safely.



(iv) Safety Orientation Programme – Regulation 22

The master, owner or agent of a ship in a harbour must regularly conduct safety orientation programmes for all persons who do any work on the ship to which the Regulations apply.

(v) Establishment of VSCC – Regulation 27

When hazardous work is to be carried out on board any ship, a Vessel Safety Co-ordination Committee (VSCC) must be established by the master, agent or owner for a vessel in a harbour. The VSCC must meet daily and plan and co-ordinate all work on board the vessel.

(vi) Permit-to-work System – Regulation 35

Where any of the work listed in regulation 35(2) are carried out, then a permit-to-work system as stipulated in Part IV of the Regulations must be implemented. The types of work as listed in regulation 35(2) are as follows:

- (a) any hot-work, whether carried out in a confined space or otherwise;
- (b) any work which involves the use of any hazardous, volatile, corrosive or flammable chemical, material or solvent in significant quantities;
- (c) any work involving entry into any confined space;
- (d) spray painting;
- (e) any grit-blasting work carried out in a confined space;
- (f) the testing of dismantling of any pipe or equipment that –
  - (i) contains, or had contained, oil or substances that are flammable, toxic or corrosive; or
  - (ii) contains steam;
- (g) the ballasting and de-ballasting of the ship;
- (h) any repair or maintenance work carried out on the hydraulic system of the ship;
  - (i) the bunkering and transferring of fuel oil; and
  - (j) radiography work.

- 4 Please familiarise yourself with the requirements of the Factories (Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing) Regulations. A copy of which can be obtained from the Singapore National Printer Ltd.

Yours faithfully



GO HENG HUAT  
for CHIEF INSPECTOR OF FACTORIES