

## **CIRCULAR**

SETTING THE STANDARD FOR SERVICE AND SECURITY

TO ALL MEMBERS

2 September 2010

**Dear Sirs** 

## REGULATIONS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MARINE POLLUTION FROM SHIPS

We refer members to previous circulars on the new Regulations of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on the Prevention and Control of Marine Pollution from Ships ('the Regulations'), and the postponement of the requirement that owners/operators of (a) any ship carrying polluting and hazardous cargoes in bulk or (b) any other ship above 10,000 gt enter into a pollution clean-up contract with a Maritime Safety Agency (MSA) approved pollution response company before the ship enters a PRC port.

These requirements were postponed pending additional rules to be issued by the MSA. The International Group understands that the issue of these additional rules detailing the standards and criteria that approved spill responders must adhere to, including information on the standard contractual terms under which they will operate, has been further postponed. Moreover, even after the issuance of these additional rules, there will be a 'grace' period before their implementation. The International Group will continue to engage with the MSA to determine when the rules will be issued and a further update to members will be provided in due course.

We also refer members to the previous recommendation not to enter into contractual arrangements with a spill response organisation for the purposes of ensuring compliance with the Regulations until such further rules have been issued by the PRC's MSA. Moreover, even then it is recommended that members discuss matters with the club before entering into any such contracts.

All clubs in the International Group of P&I Clubs have issued similar circulars.

Yours faithfully

Alistair Groom Chief Executive

Charles Taylor & Co Limited

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Direct Line: +44 20 3320 8899 E-mail: alistair.groom@ctcplc.com

The Standard Steamship Owners' Protection and Indemnity Association (Bermuda) Limited

www.standard-club.com

Incorporated in Bermuda No. 01837. Authorised and regulated by the UK Financial Services Authority

Managers' London Agents: Charles Taylor & Co. Limited

Standard House, 12/13 Essex Street, London WC2R 3AA. Registered in England No. 2561548 Telephone: +44 20 3320 8888 Fax: +44 20 3320 8800 E-mail: p&i.london@ctcplc.com



