



*Prohibition of Organotin Compounds  
on Ships of 24 Metres or More in Length, but Less Than 400 Gross Tonnage*

**Merchant Shipping Notice No 76**

*Notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators and Managers,  
Owners' representatives and Masters, and Officers*

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The Directorate would like to remind all concerned that as from 1 January 2008, all ships of 24 metres or more in length, but less than 400 gross tonnage, shall carry on board an Anti-Fouling System Declaration, drawn up under Regulation (EC) No 782/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 April 2003, on the prohibition of organotin compounds on ships.

The declaration is to serve as a proof that no organotin compounds which act as biocides in anti-fouling systems have been applied or that a coating that forms as a barrier to such compounds, to prevent them leaching from the underlying non-compliant anti-fouling system has been applied.

The declaration has to be drawn up in the form provided in Annex III of Regulation (EC) No 782/2003 and has to be signed by the owner or an owner's authorised representative. Moreover, the declaration has to be accompanied by appropriate documentation (such as paint receipt or a contractor invoice) or contain an appropriate endorsement.

In order to ensure the continuous uninterrupted operation of Malta flag ships after 1 January 2008, ships of 24 metres or more in length, but less than 400 gross tonnage, are hereby reminded to submit a copy of the Anti-Fouling System Declaration to this Directorate as soon as possible. Ships not furnished with such a declaration may experience delays after 1 January 2008.

Regulation (EC) No 782/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 April 2003, on the prohibition of organotin compounds on ships can be downloaded from:

[http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2003/l\\_115/l\\_11520030509en00010011.pdf](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2003/l_115/l_11520030509en00010011.pdf)

Merchant Shipping Directorate  
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