



# TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

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## MARINE CIRCULAR

### No. 12

November 2005

**FOR:** Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters and Classification Societies

## **REVISED MARPOL ANNEX IV – REVISED REGULATIONS FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION BY SEWAGE FROM SHIPS**

**Entry into force:** 1 August 2005

The revised regulations in this Annex entered into force on 1 August 2005 and it requires ships to be equipped with either a sewage treatment plant, a sewage comminuting and disinfecting system or a sewage holding tank.

Discharge of sewage into the sea will be prohibited at a distance of 12 nautical miles, or less, from the nearest land. Exception apply when the ship has an approved sewage treatment plant in operation or when discharging comminuted and disinfected sewage using an approved system at a distance of more than 3 nautical miles from the nearest land.

The revised regulations will apply to new ships engaged in international voyages of 400 gross tonnage and above or which are certified to carry more than 15 persons. The definition of a new ship is a ship for which the building contract is placed, or in the absence of a building contract, the keel of which is laid, or which is at a similar stage of construction, on or after the date of entry into force of this Annex (1 August 2005).

Existing ships (ships that are not new ships as according to the definition above) will be required to comply with the provisions by 27 September 2008.