



**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
(AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ)
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF MERCHANT MARINE
(DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE MARINA MERCANTE)
DEPARTMENT OF CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE
(DEPARTAMENTO DE CONTROL Y CUMPLIMIENTO)**

F-265
(DCCM)
V.00



MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-224

To: Ship-owners/Operators, Fuel-oil Suppliers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (RO`s)

Subject: Control of the Fuel's Quality Guidelines

Reference: Marpol's Regulation 18(8.1) Annex VI,
Res. MEPC182 (59)
Resolution No. 106-OMI-80-DGMM of June 29, 2010.
Resolution No. 106-OMI-183-DGMM of December 12, 2016.

1. The purpose of this circular is to inform about the establishment of control of the fuel's quality to be delivered on board ships by the bunker suppliers, specifically on the steps to be followed for the taking of samples demanded by MARPOL's Regulation 18(8.1) Annex VI.

2. For sampling location purposes, the sample of the fuel delivered to the ship, should be obtained at the receiving ship's inlet bunker manifold and should be drawn continuously throughout the bunker delivery period. In case of bunker suppliers operating in the Republic of Panama, for sampling location purposes, the sample of the fuel delivered to the ship, should be obtained at the suppliers ship bunker manifold and should be drawn continuously throughout the bunker delivery period.

3. The primary sample is the representative sample of the fuel delivered to the ship collected throughout the bunkering period obtained by the sampling equipment positioned at the bunker manifold of the receiving ship.

4. For term of reference on the previous paragraph quoted of this Merchant Marine Circular, please take into account the information submitted within the Res. MEPC182 (59).

5. Flashpoint

5.1 SOLAS Regulation II-2/4.2.1.1 requires that the minimum flashpoint of any fuel used by the vessel or carried in its tanks must not be less than 60°C. Fuels with a lower flashpoint do not comply with the requirements of SOLAS and, more importantly, create an increased risk of fire and explosion. Consequently, the flashpoint of a fuel supplied to the ship should be properly verified by checking the documentation provided before bunkering operations commence.

Note: This MMC to start into force since 1/January/2020.

March, 2020 – Last Modification.

February, 2020 – Modification of paragraph 2.

December, 2019

– Added IMO Resolutions and Circulars, At reference on title.

-Changed contain of the existing paragraphs, in especially of paragraph No. 2.

-Addition of new paragraphs (3 to 7.1).

June, 2011

***Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any other request should be directed to:
Segumar Panama.***

***Directorate General of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority***

Phone: (507) 501-5348/5350

***E-mail: rberrocal@segumar.com
deputychief@segumar.com***

PanCanal Building
Albrook, Panama City
Republic of Panama
Tel: (507) 501-5355 mmc@amp.gob.pa