UK P&I CLUB

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Bulletin 963 - 04/14 - Mass Flow Meters - Singapore

The Port of Singapore has become the first port to mandate the use of "Mass Flow Meters" in bunker operations.

The Mass Flow Meter is a device which measures the mass of the bunkers, rather than the volume and removes the risk of human error when calculating bunker quantities. It is also designed to combat "frothed" or "cappuccino" bunkers, where fuel is delivered with small air bubbles which, after settling, lower the total volume of fuel delivered and in turns leads to claims and disputes over the quantity delivered. It is suggested that the system may also reduce the amount of time required for bunkering by around three hours, resulting in greater operational efficiency.

Enforcement dates for the new system to be fitted are as follows:

31st December 2014 - New bunker tankers applying for a harbor craft (bunker tanker) license will be required to be fitted with the MFM system.

31st December 2016 - Existing bunker tankers must be fitted with an MPA approved MFM system

1st January 2017 - All bunker fuel delivery must use the MFM system in the Port of Singapore

Source of information

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