

Circular From NOE**Date: 21 September 2016****North American ECA:
Fuel Sampling and Testing in Canada**

Port State Control inspectors in Canada are now testing ships' fuels to verify compliance with the North America ECA requirements on sulphur content.

The 0.1% sulphur limit for fuel in use within the Canadian jurisdiction of the NA-ECA has been in effect since January 2015. From 22 August 2016, Transport Canada's Marine Safety Inspectors will carry out on-site fuel sampling and testing of marine fuels to verify compliance with this 0.1% sulphur content requirement.

Fuel samples are drawn from the engine's fuel supply system and the inspectors will use portable fuel analysers to measure the sulphur content. Transport Canada state that the on-site test results will help inspectors make informed decisions on the next enforcement steps, such as forwarding the samples to an accredited laboratory for further analysis.

Transport Canada has also advised that they will share the results with industry stakeholders, other maritime administrations and the International Maritime Organization, but will make data on individual ships anonymous.

The Transport Canada bulletin can be read at:

<http://www.tc.gc.ca/media/documents/marinesafety/SSB-08-2016E.pdf> .

We would suggest that calling vessels' engineers identify suitable sampling points prior to an inspection. The sample should be representative of the fuel in use and be able to be drawn safely.

Source of Information: North of England P&I Club