

Circular From NORTH

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New Zealand has introduced stringent compulsory standards relating to hull biofouling

The Craft Risk Management Standard (CRMS) came into force on 18 May 2018. This mandatory ‘clean hull’ requirement applies to vessels entering NZ territorial waters and non-compliance can lead to expulsion.

The New Zealand government places high importance on the nation’s biosecurity. The CRMS aims to tackle their concerns on the biofouling risks presented by visiting vessels with fouled hulls.

To comply with the CRMS, vessels must:

1. Carry out hull cleaning within 30 days of arrival; or
2. Provide evidence of continual hull maintenance in accordance with best practice; or
3. Book an appointment to haul out a vessel at an approved facility with 24 hours of arrival

With regard to option 3, there are doubts on the capabilities of existing facilities to receive large merchant vessels. Furthermore, no facilities have yet gained approval from the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI).

Documentary evidence includes:

- Vessel antifouling certificate
- Biofouling management plan
- Biofouling record book
- Report from last hull cleaning

P&I Services Auckland have issued a circular that provides further information. This can be read [here](#).

Comprehensive details of the CRMS can be found on the website of the NZ [Ministry of Primary Industries](#) (MPI).

Source of Information: North of England P&I Club