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FOBAS Regulatory Update: Taiwan introduces 0.50% fuel sulphur limit

Applicability: Ship owners and operators

Taiwan's Ministry of Transport and Communication recently issued a statement announcing the plan to introduce a maximum 0.50% sulphur fuel limit for ships visiting all Ports around Taiwan from 1st January 2019.

The move comes ahead of the MARPOL Annex VI regulation 14.1.3 implementation from 1st January 2020 where ships must use fuels with sulphur 0.50% or less operating outside designated emission control areas (ECA-SOx) for sulphur oxide. Moreover, this announcement would also bring Taiwan in-line with the other similar regional environmental initiatives from China and Hong Kong.

However, at this point the details of the implementation and frame work are unclear. Moreover, apparently the Ministry of Transport has indicated to provide subsidy for ships visiting Taiwanese Ports with TWD 5,000 (USD 172) for voluntary compliance before 1st January 2019. We will issue further FOBAS bulletins as and when there are updates from the authorities.

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