

**Service Update:** Hong Kong – Air Pollution Control (Fuel at Berth) Regulation (L.N. 51 of 2015)

In an attempt to improve air quality, the Hong Kong government has announced that, from 1st July 2015, all vessels are required to use marine fuel with a sulphur content not exceeding 0.5% m/m while at berth in Hong Kong, except during the first hour after arrival (vessel is first securely moored or anchored at a berth) and the last hour before departure (i.e. the moment when the vessel is untied from its berth).

The regulation defines the term “at berth” as a place in the waters of Hong Kong at which a vessel is not underway.

Compliant fuels as required by the regulation are low-sulphur marine fuels with a max sulphur content of 0.5% m/m, LNG, and any other fuel approved by the Director of Environmental Protection.

The regulation also requires record keeping, which should be readily available for inspection for a period of 3 years, of following:

- (a) The date and time of arrival and departure
- (b) The date and time when any fuel switch operation to compliant fuel is completed and the date and time when any fuel switch operation to non-compliant fuel commences.

If an ocean-going vessel uses technology that can achieve the same or less sulphur dioxide emission when compared with using low-sulphur marine fuel, the vessel may be exempted from fuel switching. Furthermore exemption may be sought if the compliance with the regulation poses any risk to the safety of the vessel. For detailed information about the exemption and the penalty charges please refer to:

<http://www.qld.gov.hk/eqazette/pdf/20151911/es22015191151.pdf>

[http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/prob\\_solutions/frequently-asked-questions.html](http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/prob_solutions/frequently-asked-questions.html)

[http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/prob\\_solutions/guide-air-pollution-control-ocean-going-vesselsfuel-berth-regulation.html](http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/prob_solutions/guide-air-pollution-control-ocean-going-vesselsfuel-berth-regulation.html)

If you require any further information about this Bulletin, please contact Lloyd's Register FOBAS at [fobas@lr.org](mailto:fobas@lr.org) or speak to one of our consultants on +44 (0)330 414 0577 (UK) +65 3163 0888 (Singapore) +30 210 4580 932 (Greece)