

20 March 2017

FOBAS Bulletin: Release of ISO 8217:2017 standard

Applicability: All ship owners and operators

The 6th edition of the international marine fuel standard ISO 8217 has just been published. The standard is copyright however can be purchased directly from ISO website

<https://www.iso.org/standard/64247.html>

The most notable changes compared to the previous edition (ISO 8217:2012) as outlined in the standard's introduction are as follows

1. **"FAME" grades** - Inclusion of distillate biodiesel blend grades categorised as: DFA, DFZ and DFB grades in table 1 with a maximum fatty acid methyl esters (FAME) content of 7,0 volume %.
2. **Sulphur contents** - DMA, DMZ and DMB sulphur contents have been reduced to 1.00 and 1.50 mass % respectively
3. **Cold flow properties** - Inclusion of cloud point (CP) and cold filter plugging point (CFPP) requirements for winter grade DMA and DMZ to better control the fuels cold flow properties on-board.
4. **Scope changes** - Amendments to the scope (clause 1) and 'General requirements' clause 5, addressing fuels from other renewable sources such as synthetic, GTL (Gas to Liquid) BTL (Biomass to Liquid) etc. Also clause 5.2 (previously 5.5) has been amended to provide greater clarity to its intent and broaden the scope to cover the inclusion of unacceptable (deleterious) compounds in the fuels from the refineries through the supply chain and does not limit it to added substances as in the past, in an attempt to better protect the interest of the buyers.
5. **Annexes modified** - The annexes have been rationalised and updated with key information being moved into the body of the text under the descriptions of the test methods to stress their importance. These are Sulphur content, Flash point, Catalytic fines, and Precision and interpretation of test results.

6. **FAME content** - In response to field experiences since 2010 and available testing data on FAME levels found in marine fuels, the increase of the de-minimis level of FAME to approximately 0.5 volume % will provide greater scope for supply with no negative impact on the ship's operations.

Please note that we (FOBAS) are an active member of the ISO 8217 working group (ISO TC28/SC4/WG6) and the CIMAC WG7 – Fuels, where we contributed and influenced each stage of the standard's development with our client's interests foremost on our minds. During this process a number of questions were raised answers to which have been addressed in the form of appropriate changes in the final draft and a separate CIMAC FAQ document. These FAQ's are soon to be available later this week by following the link www.cimac.com/faqetc.

We will welcome any feedback and questions you may have on this latest edition of ISO 8217 standard.

If you require any further information about this Bulletin, please contact us at fobas@lr.org or speak to one of our consultants on +44 (0)330 414 1000 (Southampton UK), +44 (0)1642 440991 Redcar (UK), +65 3163 0888 (Singapore), +30 210 4580 932 (Greece).