

Isle of Man Ship Registry Technical Advisory Notice



Acceptance of Electronic Oil Record Books

Ref. 006-18
Issued 27 June 2018

This Technical Advisory Notice (TAN) has been published to advise Owners, Operators, Masters, Seafarers and Port State Control Officers of a recent decision made by the Red Ensign Group's Technical Forum regarding the acceptance of Electronic Oil Record Books (eORBs). This TAN applies to ships registered with the Isle of Man Ship Registry who are using (or intend to use) eORBs.

Background

The International Maritime Organization's Marine Environmental Protection Committee (MEPC) has developed draft guidelines for the use of electronic MARPOL record books. It is anticipated that these guidelines will be adopted by IMO in 2019. The draft guidelines aim to provide standardized information on approving electronic record books to ensure the MARPOL requirements are fulfilled in a consistent manner. The MEPC has also encouraged ships to use electronic record books prior to the adoption of the guidelines so experience can be gained and shared in the use of electronic record books.

The Red Ensign Group, including the Isle of Man Ship Registry would like to encourage ships to use eORBs on a trial basis prior to the Guidelines being formally adopted by IMO, This is in order for ships to gain and share experience in the use of eORBs. The use of eORBs will be permitted during this trial period providing the criteria stated below is followed.

Criteria for the acceptance of electronic Oil Record Books

The following criteria must be used for an eORB to be accepted for use on an Isle of Man registered during this trial period:

1. The software must be approved by a Recognised Organisation* to ensure it conforms with the following requirements:
 - a) MARPOL Annex I, Regulation 17 & 36; and
 - b) IMO MEPC Circ.736/Rev.2 guidelines.
2. The entries from the electronic record book must be printed and accompanied with a printed version of the following (refer to MARPOL Annex I Appendix III Form of Oil Record Book)
 - a) Part I: Machinery Space Operations (All ships) Introduction and List of Items to be Recorded; and
 - b) Part II: Cargo/ballast operations (Oil tankers) Plan view of cargo and slop tanks, Introduction and list of items to be recorded.
3. The printed record book must have each page of entries numbered sequentially. Each entry is to be signed by the officer in charge and each page is to be signed by the Master.



4. The printed version will be the official version of the eORB which should be available for inspection by any 3rd Party inspector and maintained on board for 3 years.
5. A copy of this Notice should be available on board as evidence of the Isle of Man Ship Registry's requirements.

*Refer to [MSN 020](#) for the list of Recognised Organisations approved by the Isle of Man Ship Registry.

Please note - The Isle of Man Ship Registry cannot give legal advice. Where this document provides guidance on the law it should not be regarded as definitive. The way the law applies to any particular case can vary according to circumstances - for example, from vessel to vessel. You should consider seeking independent legal advice if you are unsure of your own legal position.

