

**MPC  
99**

(Dec  
2011)

# **Oil residue (sludge) tank discharge connections to the bilge system, oily bilge water holding tank(s), tank top or oily water separators (MARPOL 73/78 Annex I Regulation 12.2)**

## **MARPOL 73/78 Annex I (as amended by MEPC.187(59)) Regulation 12.2**

*2. Oil residue (sludge) may be disposed of directly from the oil residue (sludge) tank(s) through the standard discharge connection referred to in regulation 13, or any other approved means of disposal. The oil residue (sludge) tank(s):*

*.2. shall have no discharge connections to the bilge system, oily bilge water holding tank(s), tank top or oily water separators except that the tank(s) may be fitted with drains, with manually operated self-closing valves and arrangements for subsequent visual monitoring of the settled water, that lead to an oily bilge water holding tank or bilge well, or an alternative arrangement, provided such arrangement does not connect directly to the bilge piping system.*

## **MARPOL 73/78 Annex I Unified Interpretation to regulation 12.2.2 introduced by MEPC.1/Circ.753**

***2 There should be no interconnections between the sludge tank discharge piping and bilge-water piping other than possible common piping leading to the standard discharge connection referred to in regulation 13.***

### **Interpretation**

Screw-down non-return valves arranged in lines connecting to common piping leading to the standard discharge connection required by regulation 13, to prevent sludge from discharging to the bilge system, oily bilge water holding tank(s), tank top or oily water separators, provide a means equivalent to an arrangement that has “no interconnection” or “no discharge connections” as so specified in regulation 12.2 and Unified Interpretation thereto.

It is understood that the common piping may serve only one purpose and that is to connect the discharge lines of the bilge and sludge pumps to the standard discharge connection referred to in regulation 13, or any other approved means of disposal.

---

### **NOTE**

1. This Unified Interpretation is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies from 1 July 2012.

|                    |
|--------------------|
| End of<br>Document |
|--------------------|