

MEMBER ALERT



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PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (PRC): SHIP POLLUTION RESPONSE ORGANIZATIONS (SPROs)

It has come to the attention of your Managers that a number of vessels calling at ports in the PRC have failed to sign SPRO agreements as required by local law.

According to the PRC's *Regulation on the Prevention and Control of Vessel-Induced Pollution to the Marine Environment*, vessels carrying bulk liquid cargoes with hazardous pollutants, and other vessels of 10,000 GT or more, must conclude an agreement with an approved SPRO prior to conducting operations in, or entering or exiting, ports in the PRC.

Failure to comply with the Regulation will result in a fine issued by the local Maritime Safety Agency (MSA) of RMB 10,000 (US\$ 1,600) to RMB 50,000 (US\$ 7,900).

The list of the PRC's MSA approved SPROs can be found at:

<http://en.msa.gov.cn/marineEnvironmentProtection/index.jhtml>

Your Managers are grateful to Huatai Insurance Agency & Consultant Service Ltd. in Beijing for providing this information.