



SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

CIRCULAR NO. 23/10

TO MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Dear Member:

REGULATIONS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MARINE POLLUTION FROM SHIPS

Reference is made to earlier Circulars on the new Regulations of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on the Prevention and Control of Marine Pollution from Ships ("the Regulations"), and the postponement of the requirement that owners/operators of (a) any ship carrying polluting and hazardous cargoes in bulk or (b) any other vessel above 10,000 gt enter into a pollution clean up contract with a Maritime Safety Agency (MSA) approved pollution response company before the vessel enters a PRC port.

These requirements were postponed pending additional rules to be issued by the MSA. The International Group understands that the issue of these additional rules detailing the standards and criteria that approved spill responders must adhere to, including information on the standard contractual terms under which they will operate, has been further postponed.

Moreover, even after issuance of these additional rules, there will be a "grace" period before their implementation. The International Group will continue to engage with the MSA to determine when the rules will be issued and a further update to Members will be provided in due course.

We also refer Members to the previous recommendation not to enter into contractual arrangements with a spill response organization for the purposes of ensuring compliance with the Regulations until such further rules have been issued by the PRC's MSA. Moreover, even then it is recommended that Members discuss matters with their Club before entering into any such contracts.

Yours faithfully,


Joseph E. M. Hughes, Chairman & CEO
Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc, Managers for
THE AMERICAN CLUB

All Clubs in the International Group of P&I Clubs have issued similar circulars.