

CIRCULAR

Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Manager
60 Broad Street - 37th Floor
New York, New York 10004 U.S.A.



JANUARY 28, 2004

CIRCULAR NO. 4/04

TO MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Tel: 212-847-4500
Fax: 212-847-4599
E-mail: info@american-club.net
Website: www.american-club.com

Dear Member:

VOYAGE SURCHARGES FOR U.S. TRADING TANKERS: 2004 POLICY YEAR

The current system of charging voyage surcharges for tankers trading to the United States will continue for the next policy year. Happily, the rates are nearly 5% lower for 2004 by comparison with the expiring figures.

As is the case at present, a differential will apply as between vessels which have segregated ballast tanks (SBT) and those which are not so equipped. In order to qualify for the lower rates applicable to the SBT category of tonnage, a vessel must be equipped with segregated ballast tanks as defined by Regulation 13 of Annex 1 to MARPOL 73/78.

It is hoped that the following table will be of assistance in setting out the 2004 policy year arrangements.

VESSEL CATEGORY	Non-SBT	SBT	Basis
(i) Tankers of 1,001 gt or more	\$0.136	\$0.119	per gt per voyage
LOOP/lightening	\$0.067	\$0.059	per gt per voyage
(ii) Tankers of 1,000 gt or less and - either	\$136	\$120	per voyage
- or	\$2,719	\$2,399	per annum
(iii) Parcel tankers carrying 5,000 mt or less of persistent oil as cargo	\$407	\$359	per voyage
(iv) Parcel tankers carrying 5,001 - 10,000 mt of persistent oil as cargo	\$1,023	\$895	per voyage
(v) Parcel tankers carrying 10,001 mt or more of persistent oil as cargo	\$0.136	\$0.119	per gt per voyage

The footnote overleaf contains the definitions which apply to the terms used above.

As to the making of declarations, Members are reminded that they are obligated to declare **all** US voyages by tankers each quarter in arrears. Forms for such declarations for the quarters ending May 20, 2004, August 20, 2004, November 20, 2004 and February 20, 2005 are attached hereto. Completed forms should be returned to the Club within two months of the end of each quarter. **Members are urged to note that their cover may be prejudiced if declarations are not made in an accurate and timely manner.**



Tankers (including OOs and OBOs) carrying persistent oil on any voyage will be regarded as carrying persistent oil for any such quarter.

Members are also asked to inform the Club immediately if a vessel, declared to the Club as not carrying persistent oil as cargo, is indeed carrying a cargo of persistent oil. Members with OOs and OBOs declared as dry cargo vessels are advised to inform the Club immediately if any such vessels are carrying oil as cargo whether persistent or non-persistent.

The Managers will be pleased to respond to any questions Members may have in regard to the above, or generally.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Joseph E.M. Hughes". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

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

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Footnote: The following definitions apply to the terms used above.

Parcel Tanker: A ship constructed or adapted primarily to carry cargoes of noxious liquid substances in bulk, and capable of carrying at least ten grades simultaneously, having been issued with an international certificate of fitness for the carriage of dangerous chemicals in bulk.

Segregated ballast tanks: A ship will be deemed to have segregated ballast tanks if it is equipped in accordance with the requirements of regulation 13 of Annex I to MARPOL 73/79.

U.S. Voyage: Any cargo voyage involving loading or discharging cargo at any port of place in the U.S.A. or within the EEZ as defined in OPA 1990. U.S.A. includes District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands and Northern Marianas.

Persistent Oils: All hydro-carbon mineral oils other than those falling within the definition of **non-persistent oils** described below.

Non-Persistent Oils: Oils which consist of hydro-carbon fractions:

- a) at least 50% of which, by volume, distills at a temperature of 340 degrees C, and
- b) at least 95% of which distills at a temperature of 370 degrees C

when tested by the ASTM Method D 86/78 or any subsequent revision thereof.

For Members' guidance, the following oils are **non-persistent**:

- LNG
- LPG
- Gasolines (AVGAS/MOGAS)
- White spirit
- Kerosenes (domestic, tractor, aviation, No. 1 fuel)
- Gasoline blending components (naphthas)



VOYAGE SURCHARGES FOR US TRADING TANKERS

FIRST QUARTER 2004 POLICY YEAR

US Voyage Quarterly Declaration Form

Oil Cargo / Persistent / Non-Persistent Quarterly Declaration Form

Period: February 20, 2004 to May 20, 2004. To be returned to the Club by July 20, 2004

Member: _____ Name of Vessel: _____

Type of Vessel: Non-SBT Tanker SBT Tanker OBO / OO (Please check)

We hereby certify that the vessel during the period as set out above did (Please check)

A OBO's and OO's only	not carry any cargo of oil: (please sign and return this form) <input type="checkbox"/>	carry oil as cargo: (proceed to B) <input type="checkbox"/>
B All Tankers	not carry persistent oil as cargo: (proceed to C) <input type="checkbox"/>	carry persistent oil as cargo: (proceed to C) <input type="checkbox"/>
C All Tankers	not make any voyages to and/or from the USA or US EEZ: <input type="checkbox"/> (please sign and return this form)	make voyages to the USA and/or US EEZ: <input type="checkbox"/> (specify in the table below)

Voyage to US and/or US EEZ	Date of loading	Port of loading Name of Port, LOOP or offshore	Date of Discharge	Port of discharge Name of port LOOP or offshore	Type of cargo Please state: "Persistent", "Non-Persistent", "Chemical" or "Other". If "Non-Persistent" please specify cargo
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					

Signed by authorized signatory of Member: _____ Date: _____

All tanker Members have to complete this form. "SBT", "Persistent" and "Non-Persistent" are defined in Circular 4/04 of January 28, 2004.



VOYAGE SURCHARGES FOR US TRADING TANKERS

SECOND QUARTER 2004 POLICY YEAR

US Voyage Quarterly Declaration Form
 Oil Cargo / Persistent / Non-Persistent Quarterly Declaration Form
 Period: May 20, 2004 to August 20, 2004. To be returned to the Club by October 20, 2004

Member: _____ Name of Vessel: _____

Type of Vessel: Non-SBT Tanker SBT Tanker OBO / OO (Please check)

We hereby certify that the vessel during the period as set out above did (Please check)

A OBO's and OO's only	not carry any cargo of oil: (please sign and return this form) <input type="checkbox"/>	carry oil as cargo: (proceed to B) <input type="checkbox"/>
B All Tankers	not carry persistent oil as cargo: (proceed to C) <input type="checkbox"/>	carry persistent oil as cargo: (proceed to C) <input type="checkbox"/>
C All Tankers	not make any voyages to and/or from the USA or US EEZ: <input type="checkbox"/> (please sign and return this form)	make voyages to the USA and/or US EEZ: <input type="checkbox"/> (specify in the table below)

Voyage to US and/or US EEZ	Date of loading	Port of loading Name of Port, LOOP or offshore	Date of Discharge	Port of discharge Name of port LOOP or offshore	Type of cargo Please state: "Persistent", "Non-Persistent", "Chemical" or "Other". If "Non-Persistent" please specify cargo
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					

Signed by authorized signatory of Member: _____ Date: _____
 All tanker Members have to complete this form. "SBT", "Persistent" and "Non-Persistent" are defined in Circular 4/04 of January 28, 2004.



**VOYAGE SURCHARGES FOR US TRADING TANKERS
THIRD QUARTER 2004 POLICY YEAR**

US Voyage Quarterly Declaration Form
 Oil Cargo / Persistent / Non-Persistent Quarterly Declaration Form
 Period: August 20, 2004 to November 20, 2004. To be returned to the Club by January 20, 2005

Member: _____ Name of Vessel: _____

Type of Vessel: Non-SBT Tanker SBT Tanker OBO / OO (Please check)

We hereby certify that the vessel during the period as set out above did (Please check)

A OBO's and OO's only	not carry any cargo of oil: (please sign and return this form) <input type="checkbox"/>	carry oil as cargo: (proceed to B) <input type="checkbox"/>
B All Tankers	not carry persistent oil as cargo: (proceed to C) <input type="checkbox"/>	carry persistent oil as cargo: (proceed to C) <input type="checkbox"/>
C All Tankers	not make any voyages to and/or from the USA or US EEZ: <input type="checkbox"/> (please sign and return this form)	make voyages to the USA and/or US EEZ: <input type="checkbox"/> (specify in the table below)

Voyage to US and/or US EEZ	Date of loading	Port of loading Name of Port, LOOP or offshore	Date of Discharge	Port of discharge Name of port LOOP or offshore	Type of cargo Please state: "Persistent", "Non-Persistent", "Chemical" or "Other". If "Non-Persistent" please specify cargo
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					

Signed by authorized signatory of Member: _____ Date: _____
 All tanker Members have to complete this form. "SBT", "Persistent" and "Non-Persistent" are defined in Circular 4/04 of January 28, 2004.



VOYAGE SURCHARGES FOR US TRADING TANKERS

FOURTH QUARTER 2004 POLICY YEAR

US Voyage Quarterly Declaration Form
 Oil Cargo / Persistent / Non-Persistent Quarterly Declaration Form
 Period: November 20, 2004 to February 20, 2005. To be returned to the Club by April 20, 2005

Member: _____ Name of Vessel: _____

Type of Vessel: Non-SBT Tanker SBT Tanker OBO / OO (Please check)

We hereby certify that the vessel during the period as set out above did (Please check)

A OBO's and OO's only	not carry any cargo of oil: (please sign and return this form) <input type="checkbox"/>	carry oil as cargo: (proceed to B) <input type="checkbox"/>
B All Tankers	not carry persistent oil as cargo: (proceed to C) <input type="checkbox"/>	carry persistent oil as cargo: (proceed to C) <input type="checkbox"/>
C All Tankers	not make any voyages to and/or from the USA or US EEZ: <input type="checkbox"/> (please sign and return this form)	make voyages to the USA and/or US EEZ: <input type="checkbox"/> (specify in the table below)

Voyage to US and/or US EEZ	Date of loading	Port of loading Name of Port, LOOP or offshore	Date of Discharge	Port of discharge Name of port LOOP or offshore	Type of cargo Please state: "Persistent", "Non-Persistent", "Chemical" or "Other". If "Non-Persistent" please specify cargo
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					

Signed by authorized signatory of Member: _____ Date: _____
 All tanker Members have to complete this form. "SBT", "Persistent" and "Non-Persistent" are defined in Circular 4/04 of January 28, 2004.