

# NOTICE TO MARINERS

## Ballast Water Management

Masters, Owners, Operators and Agents of vessels calling at Dublin Port are reminded of their obligations under the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention), as implemented in Ireland through the Sea Pollution (Ballast Water Management Convention) Regulations 2023 (S.I. No. 188 of 2023), as amended.

Ships subject to the BWM Convention shall:

- Comply with the applicable ballast water management requirements of the Convention and Irish legislation.
- Operate an approved Ballast Water Management System (BWMS), where required, and ensure ballast water discharges meet the applicable ballast water performance standard (D-2).
- Carry and maintain onboard:
  - An approved Ballast Water Management Plan (BWMP);
  - A valid International Ballast Water Management Certificate (where applicable); and
  - A Ballast Water Record Book.
- Ensure all ballast water operations are conducted in accordance with the approved BWMP and accurately recorded in the Ballast Water Record Book.
- Follow relevant IMO guidance on contingency measures in the event of BWMS malfunction or inability to comply with ballast water management requirements.
- Avoid ballast water uptake in areas known to present a heightened risk of contamination or the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens where operationally practicable.

The Marine Survey Office (MSO) may conduct Port State Control inspections to verify compliance with the Convention and national legislation.

Masters shall ensure full compliance prior to arrival at Dublin Port and shall promptly notify both the Marine Survey Office and Dublin Port Company of any BWMS malfunction, failure, or circumstance that may affect compliance with ballast water management requirements.

Non-compliance with ballast water management requirements may result in inspection, detention, delays, enforcement action and/or prosecution.

Captain Michael McKenna | Harbour Master | 30 June 2026