

PROCEDURE

Issued by: Capt AK Ullah, Harbour Master **Date** 01/12/2019

Subject: **IMO 2020 - Reduced sulphur emission limits for ships - use of Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) - “Scrubbers.”**

1.0 Information

- 1.1 From 1 January 2020, the limit for sulphur in fuel oil used on board ships operating outside designated emission control areas will be reduced to 0.50% m/m (mass by mass).
- 1.2 Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL Convention) adopted in 1997, addresses air pollution from shipping and has been amended to include reduced sulphur limits, which previously stood at 3.50% and is referred to as “IMO 2020.”
- 1.3 Ships using heavy fuel oil are often fitted with Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS), known as “scrubbers,” which reduce sulphur emissions to (at least) legal sulphur limits.
- 1.4 Three types of scrubbers are in use, namely:
 - **Open Loop** - which forms a liquid bi-product with pollutant properties that can be discharged into the sea or other waterways.
 - **Closed Loop** - which does not discharge overboard but stores extracted sulphur in tanks before disposal at a safe shore facility.
 - **Hybrid** - switchable between Open and closed loop Modes.

2.0 Port procedures

- 2.1 Following consultation with the North East Ports Group, the Port of Sunderland Harbour Master has directed that only Closed Loop and Hybrid systems (of any recognised manufacturer) are to be used on vessels within the limits of the Port of Sunderland, with the proviso that any Hybrid system must be used in the Closed Loop mode.
- 2.2 No liquid containing any sulphurous bi-product is permitted to be discharged into the waters of the port. The legal basis for this prohibition is Byelaw 20 of the Port of Sunderland Byelaws, 1978, as follows:

