



Transport Malta

PORTS AND YACHTING DIRECTORATE

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To: Terminal and Marine Facilities and Operators
Yacht Marinas
Ship Owners
Ship Masters
Ship Agents

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**Oil and Hazardous and Noxious Substances Pollution Preparedness, Response and
Co-operation Regulations**

The Authority for Transport in Malta wishes to notify that as part of the national pollution preparedness and response legal framework, the abovementioned Regulations have been published (L.N. 450 of 2020). These Regulations shall come into force on 1st January 2021.

The objective of these Regulations is:

1. To establish, in accordance with the provisions of the Oil Pollution, Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC) Convention and the OPRC-Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) Protocol, as may be amended from time to time, a regulatory framework for the applicability of the said Convention and Protocol to which Malta is a signatory and therefore is obliged to enact into Maltese Law; and
2. To make provision with respect to the applicability of the National Marine Pollution Contingency Plan (NMPCP) and for the requirement to have in place marine pollution response emergency plans for marine terminals, marine facilities and ports.

The salient features of the Regulations are the following:

1. To give force of law to the Contingency Plan and make it applicable to all marine terminals, marine facilities and ports; and to all ships while they are in the internal and territorial waters of Malta.
2. To develop a framework for cooperation and mutual assistance between the respective terminals, facilities and port operators to develop and maintain adequate capabilities and resources to deal effectively with all levels of oil pollution incidents and emergencies.
3. In terms of these Regulations the Authority will:
 - a. Prepare and implement pollution emergency plans for the ports and harbours under its administration and management;



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- b. Ensure that marine terminals and marine facilities have in place updated pollution emergency plans, approve such and ensure that they are in line with the Contingency Plan;
- c. Establish and have in place a minimum level of first response pollution equipment;
- d. Organise periodical national pollution response and emergency training exercises and drills as well as coordinate with the aforementioned marine facilities in the organisation of their exercises and drills;
- e. Approve and coordinate training for the personnel of the aforementioned marine facilities; and
- f. Publish any required additional plans from time to time to give better effect to the Contingency Plan.

In line with the above, all marine terminals and marine facilities are urged to take stock of their current status of preparedness and carry out a risk assessment to either update plans which are already in place, or to start drawing up new plans, whichever may be the case.

Capt David Bugeja
Chief Officer and Harbour Master

30 November 2020