



SAFETY THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

**SEAGULL'S GUIDE TO  
BALLAST WATER  
MANAGEMENT**





Since the introduction of steel-hulled ships over 120 years ago, ballast water has been used in ships ballast tanks to improve stability at sea. The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention) was adopted in 2004 to introduce global regulations to control the transfer of potentially invasive species.

### The BWM Convention

entered into force on  
**8<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**  
This means that all ships are required to manage their ballast water on every voyage.

## WHAT DOES THE CONVENTION SAY ABOUT TRAINING AND CREW FAMILIARISATION?

A suitable staff training scheme will need to be developed and included in the Ballast Water Management Plan. Staff will need to be trained in their obligations under the BWM Convention, the ballast operations on board the ship, the operation and maintenance of the ballast water treatment system, and any safety risks and mitigation measures associated with the ballasting operations or treatment system.

### TRAINED CREW MEMBERS

engaged in ballast water treatment and exchange will be able to meet the ultimate goal of eliminating risks to the environment, human health, property and resources arising from ships' ballast water and sediments.





All ships will be required to have an approved Ballast Water Management Plan on board and a Ballast Water Record Book. All ships of 400 gross tonnes (gt) and above must also be surveyed and issued with an International Ballast Water Management Certificate or a Ballast Water Management Certificate of Compliance.

To limit the impact of invasive species on the marine environment, ballast water must be managed, either by exchanging it or by treating it using an approved ballast water treatment system.

## WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE BWM CONVENTION?

- A review of a ship's plans and ballast systems to ensure compliance with the BWM Convention.
- Development of a BWM Plan.
- Installation of an approved ballast water treatment system as applicable.
- Submission of the BWM Plan for approval to the classification society, flag administration or certifying administration as appropriate.
- Arrangement for initial survey by classification society, flag administration or certifying administration as appropriate to obtain a BWM Certificate or Certificate of Compliance.
- Training of ship staff in BWM operations.
- Maintenance of records in the Ballast Water Record Book as per the BWM Plan including sediment management.

### 10.000 UNWANTED AQUATIC SPECIES

are transferred with ballast water EVERY DAY. These species cause a detrimental effect on the receiving system. In turn, this impacts on public health and the local economy.





The Ballast Water Management (BWM) onboard course will take participating seafarers through the requirements and provide them with the knowledge necessary for effective implementation of the BWM Convention. Training crew members engaged in ballast water treatment and exchange will enable them to meet the ultimate goal of eliminating the risks to the environment, human health, property and resources arising from ships' ballast water and sediments.

The main aim is to **familiarize the crew** onboard with the International Convention of Control and Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments.

## WHAT DOES SEAGULL MARITIME'S ON-BOARD COURSE FOR BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT COVER?

- Ballast Water Management Plan development, implementation and operation
- Ballast Water Management safety procedures
- Ballast Water Exchange safety procedures
- Ballast Water Management techniques and methodologies
- Presentation of different Ballast Water Management Systems
- National and regional requirements with reference to the Convention
- Ballast Water Record Book keeping
- Safety procedures for sediment control and handling
- Handling, storage and preparation of chemicals and active substances.

### CREW AWARENESS

Any new technology or process introduced on board ships needs to be understood and accepted by the crew. Seagull provide awareness training to ensure your crew understands the BWM Convention, and the importance of using and maintaining the technologies and processes you choose.





Poor ballast management  
can be a global threat to  
our oceans.

Exchange, treat and  
discharge ballast water  
today.

### The BWM Convention

requires ships to manage their  
ballast water on every voyage.

**This affects more than  
99% of the world's  
fleet.**

## PORT STATE CONTROL AND DETENTIONS! WILL PSC AUTHORITIES ALSO CHECK COMPLIANCE WITH THE BWM CONVENTION?

Yes. PSC officers will be authorised to sample and analyse the ballast water to ensure that it meets the discharge criteria as required by the BWM Convention.

### They can also detain the ship if:

- The BWM Certificate is not valid.
- The Ballast Water Record Book is not maintained correctly.
- The ship's ballast sample does not meet the specifications as required by the convention.
- The condition of the ship or its ballast water associated equipment does not correspond to the particulars in the Certificate.
- The ship staff are not familiar with or have not implemented the essential shipboard procedures relating to BWM.

### 5 BILLION TONNES

of ballast water is transferred worldwide annually. Ballast water is stored in ballast tanks for improving a ship's stability at sea.



### 68000+ VESSELS

are impacted by the BWM Convention, regulating the exchange, treatment and discharge of ballast water for preventing damaging effects to eco-systems.

