

CIRCULAR REF: 2009/022

**CIRCULATED TO ALL MEMBERS, BROKERS AND DIRECTORS
ATTENTION INSURANCE DEPARTMENT**

**16 NOVEMBER 2009
JHH/MA**

**THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON CIVIL LIABILITY FOR BUNKER OIL POLLUTION 2001 UPDATE ON STATE
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND ISSUANCE OF BLUE CARDS**

Members have previously been advised that the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution 2001 (the "Bunker Convention") entered into force in State Parties on 21 November 2008 for vessels in excess of 1000gt. As already notified, Clubs in the International Group have agreed to issue the required Bunker Convention "Blue Cards" to enable State parties to issue certificates.

State Certification

(i) Ships registered in State Parties

Ships registered in a State Party need only obtain a Bunker Convention certificate from that State. This will be treated as evidence of insurance when calling at any port or terminal in any State Party. The Bunker Convention certificate will be issued against the provision of a Blue Card issued by the Club in the required form. Members with ships registered in a State Party are recommended to contact the authorities in that State in order to confirm the application procedures for Bunker Convention certificates.

(ii) Ships registered in non-State Parties

Ships registered in a State which is not party to the Convention but will be trading to States that have ratified the Convention, must obtain a Bunker Convention certificate from a State Party to the Convention.

Issue of Blue Cards 2010

Members' Blue Cards will be addressed to the State Party as previously notified to the Association for 2009 (below is a current list of State Parties). If your Flag State has ratified the Bunker Convention mid year we shall address your 2010 Blue Card to the relevant State Party. Members are reminded that if the Flag State for the vessel is a party to the Convention the Bunker Convention certificate must be issued by that State.

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NORTH OF ENGLAND P&I ASSOCIATION LIMITED 100 The Quayside, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, NE1 3DU
Telephone: +44 (0) 191 2325221 Fax: +44 (0) 191 2610540 www.nepia.com

The North of England Protecting and Indemnity Association Limited. Registered in England No. 505456. Registered Office above
Hong Kong: Room 2503, COSCO Tower, 183 Queen's Road, Central, Hong Kong Telephone: +852 25446813 Fax: +852 25424424
Greece: 5-7 Aghiou Nikolaou, GR 185 37 Piraeus, Greece Telephone: +30 210 4283038 Fax: +30 210 4280920.
Singapore: 80 Anson Road, #26-04 Fuji Xerox Towers, Singapore 079907 Telephone: +65 64110160 Fax: +65 62240160.
Tokyo: Akiyoshi Kyobashi Building, 8th Floor, 1-17-2 Kyobashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan 104-0031 Tel: +81 (3) 5159 5373 Fax: +81 (3) 5250 0003
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For ships not flying flags of State Parties, Blue Cards will be addressed to the same State Party as advised for 2009 unless the Association is specifically instructed to address it to another State Party. We shall keep Members advised as to which State Parties have agreed to issue certificates to ships not flying their flags.

**States Party to the Convention (as at
12 November 2009)**

Antigua & Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Bermuda, Bulgaria, China, Cook Islands, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Isle of Man, Jamaica, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, St Vincent & Grenadines, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom and Vanuatu.

JOHN HOWE
DIRECTOR - North Insurance Management Limited
As Managers on behalf of the North of England P&I Association Limited