



Hong Kong & China: Update on 0.5% Sulphur Cap

We are all aware the Global 0.5% sulphur cap for marine fuels comes into force on 1st January 2020. However, in the interim, the Environment Protection Department of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region have confirmed the implementation of a 0.5% sulphur limit for ships visiting their ports from **1st January 2019**. (Quoted verbatim):

“We would like to inform you that the Legislative Council has approved the Air Pollution Control (Fuel for Vessels) Regulation (Cap. 311AB) (“The Regulation”). Under the Regulation starting from 1st January 2019, all vessels except for specified vessel types as set out in the Regulation, are required to use compliant fuel within Hong Kong waters, irrespective of whether they are sailing or berthing.

Compliant fuel required by the Regulation includes low-sulphur marine fuel with sulphur content not exceeding 0.5%, liquefied natural gas or any other fuel approved by the Director of Environmental Protection. If a vessel uses emission reduction technology that can achieve the same or less emission of sulphur dioxide when compared with low-sulphur marine fuel, it may be exempted from using compliant fuel.”

Please note since 1st October 2018, other domestic ECAs in China have required ships to use fuel with a sulphur content not exceeding 0.50% at all times when operating inside the Yangtze River Delta ECA.

Please be advised, that the situation in the Pearl River Delta and Bohai-rim Waters ECAs remained unchanged, ships will be required to use compliant fuel at all times when operating inside these ECAs from 1st January 2019.

For further clarification, kindly email us at info@v-p-s.com or contact your Account manager.

Additional contact details can be found at www.v-p-s.com.