

Subject:

Piping Arrangement of Bilge Discharge from Machinery Spaces through Oily Water Separators

**ClassIBS**  
ISTHMUS BUREAU OF SHIPPING

# **Technical Notice**

No. TN-034  
Date 02 April 2012

To whom it may concern

As you well know, any discharge of oil mixtures with oil content exceeding 15ppm from the machinery space is prohibited into sea under the Regulations of MARPOL 73/78 Annex I. Furthermore, any ship of 10,000 tons gross tonnage and above shall be provided with arrangements for an alarm and for automatically stopping any discharge of oily mixture when the oil content in effluent exceeds 15ppm. Therefore, it is not allowed that any discharge pipe is directly connected to overboard discharge line with by-pass from oily water separators. Even if there is no fixed direct discharge piping arrangement, it is, also, prohibited that the discharge piping is connected easily by means of rubber hose or some portable pipes as a temporary arrangement. However, in case that there is a branch pipe on the overboard discharge line for the purpose of operation test of oily water separator and is not any connecting pipe at the discharge side of bilge pump, it is acceptable. It has been reported that ships with a temporary discharge arrangement were suspected of oil discharge into sea under the port state control and sustained heavy losses with detention.

You are kindly requested to check the discharge arrangements, in case where you find suspected arrangements with connection such as rubber hoses or portable pipes to overboard discharge, please dismantle branch pipes on discharge line permanently and/or fix blind flanges by welding in order to avoid unexpected suspicion by PSC

In this connection, we have instructed all surveyors to examine carefully the piping arrangement of the discharge system at each classification survey, every periodical class and IOPP surveys. If the attending surveyors find temporary discharge arrangements at surveys, they will instruct you to deal with this matter by permanent measures.

For any questions about the above, please contact:

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Attachment 1 : Sample of discharge arrangement

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**Attachment 1**

**Sample of Discharge Arrangement**

Where both bolted blanked flanges A and B are fitted to the Bilge Discharge Line as shown in Fig. I and II, the flange A should be cropped off or blinded off by welding in order to avoid an unexpected suspicion concerning violations of MARPOL regulations. In this case, the flange B is acceptable only for operation test of the Bilge Separator.

Fig. I

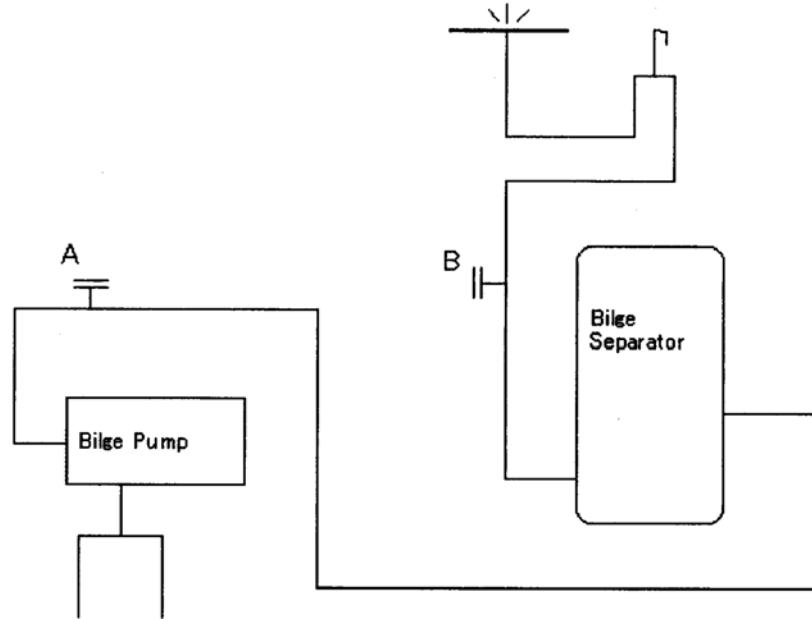


Fig. II

