

KPI Information Update IU-49-2013 **(Amendment 36-12 to the IMDG Code)**

In May 2012 the IMO Maritime Safety Committee at its ninetieth session adopted the amendments to the IMDG Code contained in Resolution MSC.328 (90). Contracting governments have been able to apply the new requirements, in part or in whole, on a voluntary basis since 1 January 2013. Compliance with the amendments becomes mandatory on 1 January 2014.

Of the many changes to the IMDG Code, some are of particular interest:

- Ten new UN numbers have been added up to UN 3506, covering, amongst others, chemicals under pressure and mercury in manufactured articles. Two UN numbers covering liquids which are toxic if inhaled have been removed from the Code.
- Chapter 7 on stowage and segregation has been reorganised to contain general stowage and segregation rules and rules specific to different vessel types and cargo transport units.
- A new definition “Protected from sources of heat” has replaced previous requirements for cargo to be stowed “Away” from sources of heat, shaded from direct sunlight and similar provisions.
- The requirements governing segregation from foodstuffs have been amended.

- The stowage categories for explosives have been revised and there are now only 5 categories rather than 15.

The 36-12 amendments have been incorporated into the 2012 edition of the IMDG Code.

Members are therefore reminded to ensure that their vessels comply with the amended IMDG Code from 1 January 2014 if they are not doing so already in accordance with flag state requirements.

