



INFOSHEET: EU SHIP RECYCLING LEGISLATION

OVERVIEW

THE EU REGULATION ESSENTIALLY APPLIES THE SHIP RECYCLING REQUIREMENTS OF THE HONG KONG CONVENTION (NOT YET INTO FORCE) TO SHIPS FLAGGED WITH EU MEMBER STATES. THE REGULATION OBLIGES EU FLAGGED LARGE COMMERCIAL SEAGOING VESSELS TO BE RECYCLED IN SAFE SHIP FACILITIES INCLUDED IN A EUROPEAN LIST FROM DECEMBER 2018 ONWARDS

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The EU institutions adopted in November 2013 the **Ship Recycling Regulation** with the goal of reducing the negative impacts linked to the recycling of ships.

The Regulation implements and complements the requirements of the 2009 **Hong Kong Convention** (not yet in force globally) and applies to EU flagged ships and imposes certain requirements to non-EU flagged ships calling at EU ports.

With the new Regulation, the installation or use of certain hazardous materials on ships will be prohibited or restricted.

These materials include for instance asbestos and ozone-depleting substances. Each new European ship (or a ship flying the flag of a third country calling at an EU port or anchorage) will be required to have on board an Inventory of Hazardous Materials verified by the relevant administration and specifying the location and approximate quantities of those materials. Since the publication of the first European List of ship recycling facilities (December 2016), EU-flagged ships going for dismantling must also have an Inventory of Hazardous Materials onboard. EU Member States' port authorities will be authorised to control European ships to verify whether they have on board a ready-for-recycling certificate or a valid inventory of hazardous materials.

A ship-specific ship recycling plan shall be developed prior to any recycling operation. This plan shall address any ship-specific considerations that require special procedures. The recycling plan will be developed by the operator of the ship recycling facility in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Hong Kong Convention and taking into account the relevant IMO guidelines and the ship-relevant information provided by the ship owner. This plan will have to be tacitly or explicitly approved by the competent authority.

Ship owners must:

- Provide the ship recycling facility with all ship-relevant information.
- Notify the relevant administration the intention to recycle the ship in a specified ship recycling facility or facilities.
- Ensure that ships destined to be recycled are only recycled at ship recycling facilities that are included in the European List.
- Collaborate with the competent authorities on the completion surveys to check whether the ship complies with the Regulation. Moreover, after successful completion of a survey, the administration shall issue an inventory certificate with a validity of up to 5 years.

The EU Commission has recently updated its **List of ship recycling facilities**. At the moment there are 21 shipyards included in the List, all of them located in the EU. They fulfil the strict requirements for inclusion and thus, they will have exclusive access to the recycling of ships flying the flags of EU Member States. Ship recycling facilities located in third countries have also applied but at the moment the EU Commission is reviewing the credentials of these yards. Based on this inspection, the Commission will decide on their inclusion in the List.

If you wish to obtain more information on this issue contact the **ETA Secretariat**

