



January 2014

To the Members

**US Non Tank Final Rule – Vessel Response Plans
Alaska Alternative Planning Criteria (non-tank vessels)**

Alaska Maritime Prevention and Response Network

Members are referred to Circular No B.619 of January 2014 and, in particular, the vessel response planning requirements for Western Alaska, which at present require shipowners to enrol with the Alaska Maritime Prevention and Response Network (AMPRN). In that circular, the attention of Members was drawn to the fact that the terms of the enrolment agreement do not conform with International Group Guidelines on Vessel Response Plans. We have been informed that a further change will be made to the enrolment agreement to make specific reference to Alaska Chadux in tick box 3. The enrolment agreement can be viewed by following the link www.ak-mprn.org and clicking on enrolment. However, concerns remain about tick box 3 which, even if amended to refer to Alaska Chadux, still continues to refer to unidentified resources. The box currently reads as follows:

“ I/we affirm that our Qualified Individual is duly authorized to execute and enter into a response action contract for oil spill response resources, as set forth in the APC NTV, on behalf of Planholder in the event requested to do so by Planholder or designated Federal On Scene Coordinator. “

The Alternative Planning Criteria for non-tank vessels (APC NTV), currently only refers to one resource - “Alaska Chadux”. However, AMPRN has stated its intention to add other resources which are as yet unidentified and for which the owner’s QI is required to enter into a contract as described in the tick box above without any prior opportunity for the owner to review the contracts of those other resources. It is therefore impossible to ascertain the risk of the contractual terms falling outside the scope of Club cover.

There seems little likelihood that the AMPRN will clarify the position prior to 30th January, the deadline for submission of non-tank vessel response plans. Members therefore have no option but to enrol with the Network.

Position with regard to P&I cover

As stated in the previous circular, the terms of the Alaska Chadux non-member contract do not conform with International Group guidelines and there is the potential that owners may be exposed to risks falling outside the scope of Club cover, for which additional insurance will be needed. Those Members wishing to obtain further details of the insurance are advised to contact their Club.

B.621

THE STEAMSHIP MUTUAL UNDERWRITING ASSOCIATION (BERMUDA) LIMITED

Registered Office: Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM 11, Bermuda
Authorised and regulated by the Bermuda Monetary Authority and authorised by the United Kingdom Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA and FCA registration number 202762)

MANAGERS: STEAMSHIP MUTUAL MANAGEMENT (BERMUDA) LIMITED
WASHINGTON MALL I, PO BOX HM 447, HAMILTON HM BX, BERMUDA
Tel: (441) 295 4502 Fax: (441) 292 8787 Website: www.steamshipmutual.com

Moreover, the possibility of AMPRN adding additional response resources to their APC which also do not conform with IG guidelines provide an additional risk to liabilities falling outside Club cover which at present cannot be ascertained.

Remote Zone D14

The US Coast Guard has revised its guidance on D14 Remote Zone. Reference to the names of the OSRO's in Guam has been deleted. In place of the names of OSROs, there is reference to an OSRO that meets the interim APC measures for Guam/CNMI. As stated in the previous circular, Members whose vessels may be calling at Guam or ports in the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas islands should contact the Coast Guard or their plan writers. However, the Club remains ready to answer questions concerning the relevant OSRO contracts if necessary.

Yours faithfully,

**THE STEAMSHIP MUTUAL UNDERWRITING
ASSOCIATION (BERMUDA) LIMITED**

THE STEAMSHIP MUTUAL UNDERWRITING ASSOCIATION (BERMUDA) LIMITED

Registered Office: Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM 11, Bermuda
Authorised and regulated by the Bermuda Monetary Authority and authorised by the United Kingdom Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA and FCA registration number 202762)

MANAGERS: STEAMSHIP MUTUAL MANAGEMENT (BERMUDA) LIMITED
WASHINGTON MALL I, PO BOX HM 447, HAMILTON HM BX, BERMUDA
Tel: (441) 295 4502 Fax: (441) 292 8787 Website: www.steamshipmutual.com