

## **CONSOLIDATED GUIDANCE FOR PORT RECEPTION FACILITY PROVIDERS AND USERS**

The use and provision of port reception facilities (PRFs) is fundamental to the overall success of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the 1978 and 1997 Protocols (MARPOL) in its objective of reducing and ultimately eliminating intentional pollution of the marine environment by ships. Considerable efforts by Party States and the industry have resulted in an improvement in the availability and adequacy of PRFs.

However, recent work by the Organization suggests that there are still barriers to the efficient delivery of MARPOL wastes/residues ashore. One such barrier has been identified as the lack of clear, easy-to-use guidance that outlines how the shipping community and reception facility providers can best conduct their operations in order to comply with MARPOL and to facilitate efficient, environmentally responsible disposal of MARPOL wastes/residues.

Since the adoption of MARPOL, global environmental and societal awareness has grown and developed. This development has introduced new concepts on how to manage operations in an environmentally sensitive and responsible way.

Many shipping companies and port authorities have implemented environmental management systems which ensure that their operations are conducted in an environmentally sound manner. Frequently, environmental objectives are set in order to facilitate the ongoing improvement, year on year, in terms of a company's environmental impact. Coupled with this is a growing desire to incorporate the principles of sustainability alongside that of corporate and social responsibility

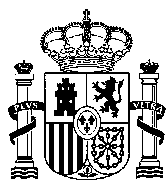
Keeping the seas and oceans clean should be seen as the overriding obligation for the use and provision of PRFs. MARPOL includes regulations aimed at preventing and minimizing pollution from ships – both accidental pollution and that from routine operations. In addition to the basic rules in the MARPOL Annexes, ships' operators should be aware that individual port States have implemented national and regional requirements which may mandate that ships discharge certain types of MARPOL wastes/residues to PRFs.

Operators should therefore ensure they have a complete and up-to-date overview of national and regional requirements relating to PRFs. Such information may be gained directly from the port State authorities, or via agents in the port, or trade associations representing the shipping and/or port industries.

The Organization has established the Port Reception Facilities Database (PRFD) within its Global Integrated Ship Information System (GISIS).

Port State authorities are encouraged to regularly seek accurate and up-to-date information from reception facility operators and port authorities and to maintain entries on the PRFD. Reception facility operators and port authorities should also be proactive in communicating updated information to port State authorities. This two-way communication will facilitate the dissemination of PRF information to the shipping industry.





MINISTERIO  
DE TRANSPORTES, MOVILIDAD  
Y AGENDA URBANA

TRIBUNAL DE OPOSICIONES  
CUERPO ESPECIAL FACULTATIVO  
DE MARINA CIVIL

**PILOTAGE.**