VESSEL GENERAL PERMIT AND BALLAST WATER SERVICES
Evaluating vessel discharge to meet monitoring requirements

Compliance of the shipping industry to a range of international and national regulations is compulsory. This process can sometimes be complex and overwhelming. These regulations include the Vessel General Permit (VGP) regulations from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US-EPA), the ballast water regulation from United States Coast Guard (USCG) and the upcoming international convention on ballast water by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO).

OUR SERVICES

DHI offers a range of services to support the shipping industry and the Port State Control (PSC) authorities in getting ready for these obligations. Our services include:

- Sampling, laboratory support and reporting to ensure compliance with VGP requirements
- Full ballast water compliance testing on installed ballast water management systems (BWMS)
- Preparation and reviews of risk assessment dossiers for ballast water management (BWM) exemption under the A4 regulation of the BWM convention
- Training of crew and PSC officers in ballast water sampling and analyses

DHI Singapore is an independent company with an independent laboratory accredited after ISO/IEC 17025 in Environmental Testing by Singapore Accreditation Council (SAC-SINGLAS).

CLIENT
- Vessel owners
- Ship management companies
- Port State Control (PSC) authorities

CHALLENGE
- Sampling and analyses of vessel discharge water
- Meeting requirements set by US-EPA to obtain the VGP
- Compliance with USCG and IMO requirements for ballast water-related activities

SOLUTION
- Sampling and laboratory support to ensure compliance with VGP requirements
- Full ballast water compliance testing on installed ballast water management systems (BWMS)
- Preparation and reviews of risk assessment dossiers for ballast water management exemption
- Training of PSC officers on ballast water regulations, compliance testing and port surveying

VALUE
- Provide documentation for vessel compliance with US-EPA and state requirements
- Management of vessel compliance with US-EPA, USCG and IMO requirements

DHI staff analysing samples on Gas Chromatograph Mass Selective Detector (GC/MSD)
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VESSEL GENERAL PERMIT

The VGP was enacted to protect the United States coastline and inland waters by regulating vessel discharges. It authorises discharge incidental to the normal operation of non-military and non-recreational vessels greater than or equal to 79 feet in length into United States waters. As such, US-EPA requires vessel owners or operators to approach sampling service providers and laboratories that perform sample collection and analysis to determine whether vessels constructed on or after 19 December 2013 meet monitoring requirements in VGP 2013.

Types of vessels required for samples collection and analyses:

- Vessels discharging bilgewater greater than 400 gross tons
- Large and medium cruise ships discharging graywater within three and one nautical miles from shore respectively
- Vessels operating on the Great Lakes
- Vessels providing overnight accommodations to 15 or more crew members and discharging graywater
- Vessels fitted with BWMS and discharging ballast water

DHI Environmental Laboratory performs analytical services according to US-EPA 2013 VGP requirements. Our testing includes, but is not limited to,

- Ballast water
- Graywater
- Exhaust gas scrubber wash water
- Bilgewater

Respective discharge water analyses will be submitted to clients as a data package which includes a summary page indicating the compliance or non-compliance with US-EPA VGP standards and a page detailing all tests parameters, methods, units and results. We can provide customised VGP dossiers to suit your needs.

BALLAST WATER COMPLIANCE TESTING

DHI is the global leader in performance evaluation of BWMS. We provide full scope type-approval testing for BWMS according to IMO G8 and G9 guidelines, as well as the USCG protocol (land-based testing at both our facilities in Denmark and Singapore and ship-board testing globally).

DHI supports ship-owners in evaluating the efficacy of newly installed systems on board ships to ensure that fitting and retro-fitting has been done properly. DHI also supports PSC in offering sampling and analyses services to authorities. This includes indicative sampling and full scope compliance testing.

With more than 10 years of expertise in sampling and testing BWMS, in addition to our continuous drive to remain updated with amendments to IMO guidelines and USCG regulations, we are the trusted choice for your testing needs.

DHI Ballast Water Testing & Innovation Center © DHI

TRAINING OF CREWS AND PORT STATE CONTROL OFFICERS

Through THE ACADEMY by DHI, we offer training on ballast water regulations, compliance testing and port surveying. The training of crews and PSC officers allows proper preparation for the implementation of international requirements for ships and crews going into international voyages as well as in the deployment of accurate solutions for the right situations.

PREPARATION AND REVIEWS OF RISK ASSESSMENT DOSSIERS

DHI has 30 offices worldwide with expertise to generate dossiers for ships applying for an exemption to the BWM convention under the regulation A4 and the associated guidelines G7. An application, if granted, would exempt a ship, for example, from installing ballast water treatment systems onboard.

The application for exemption will typically require information on the environmental conditions in the donor and receptor ports that a ship is travelling from and to, respectively. The exemption may also include identification of potential invasive species that are present in the donor port. DHI would source and interpret this data to provide an assessment of the risk introduced by an invasive specie into another port as a result of the ship's voyage and associated ballast water transfer activities.

The expert in **WATER ENVIRONMENTS**

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