

CIRCULAR TO ALL CLUBS 11-2011

PORT HEALTH CONTROL

It has come to our attention that the Port Health Authorities – ANVISA, at the ports of Rio de Janeiro and São Francisco do Sul, have become rigorous in the inspections of vessels calling at these ports. They are now asking for certificates of compliance with what is foreseen in the articles 61 and 80 of the Resolution 72, of 29.12.2009. These resolutions translated read as follows:

Quote:

Section V Of the System of Air-conditioning

Art. 60. The components of the system of air-conditioning of the vessel must be kept in good conditions of the maintenance, operation, control, and cleaning.

§ 1 The compartment where the mixing chamber of return air and renewal air shall be for the exclusive use of the system of air-conditioning, and the presence, in these compartments, of any materials, products and tools is prohibited.

§ 2 After the completion of procedures for cleaning and disinfection of the system of air-conditioning, solid dirt must be packed in bags of resistant material and adequate porosity.

§ 3 The capitation inlets of external air should be protected from possible sources of pollution, by providing them with filters, whose action must occur before the completion of the mixture of external air and return air.

Art. 61. The spreadsheets of the maintenance, operation, cleaning and disinfection of equipment for air-conditioning, as well as the reports of the quality of the air, must be submitted to the appropriate health authority, when requested.

Sole Paragraph. The quality of the air of environments artificially acclimatized, by means of air-conditioning systems with a refrigeration capacity equal to or greater than 5 TR's (60,000 BTU's), must be evaluated every six months and meet the physical, chemical and biological parameters defined in RE number 9, by January 16, 2003, as well as its updates.

Section X of the Control of Specimens of Synanthropic Fauna Harmful to Health.

79. The vessel in transit or stay in a port of sanitary control within the national territory shall be maintained free of breeding places of insect larvae, adult insects and other animals transmitters or receivers of diseases of importance to public health and poisonous animals whose presence entails risks to the individual or collective health, as well as factors that are conducive to the maintenance and breeding of these animals.

Art. 80. The vessels must, at least twice a year, be submitted to procedures of disinsectization and de-ratisation, which must be proven by means of records or certificates.

§ 1 The records or certificates referred to in the main clause of this article must be signed by the company's technical person responsible for control and contain the following information:

I – methodology used, with technique(s) of application;

II – dosage by compartment;

III – active substances insecticides, rodenticides and inert, used in concentrations of use permitted.

§ 2 The packaging of the products used in the services for the control of specimens of synanthropic fauna harmful to health should be discarded in a correct and safe manner, in accordance with the current specific standard, avoiding contamination of humans, animals and the environment.

§ 3 The use of formulations insecticides or rodenticides containing an active substance or a form of presentation not authorized by the competent bodies is prohibited, as well as the use of concentrations above the permitted limits.

Art.81. The vessel must maintain means and equipment of prevention against rodents, installed and functioning, constructed and handled in such a way as to guarantee their efficiency and effectiveness.

Unquote

Since vessels, in general, are not able to submit such certificates (or even those eventually submitted are not accepted), the ANVISA inspectors have customarily notified the vessels to comply with this requirement and submit the relevant certificates during the stay of the ship, otherwise the vessels may be punished by a fine and even may even fail to receive or have the sailing pass delayed.

In order to attend the above, vessels need to employ local companies, of course those approved by the same inspectors that demand the submission of the certificates.

For now, the vessels are being notified in the ports of Rio de Janeiro (Art. 61 and 80) and São Francisco do Sul (Art. 80 only).

Of course other ports may be affected at any moment.

Please be guided accordingly.

John McIntock
Brazil P&I Ltda

Santos 1st July 2011