

BUNKER FLASH

Repeat Occurrence of Low Flashpoint fuels in Singapore

Issued on 18.March 2021

Maritec Pte Ltd had previously issued the bunker flash [BF202102-02](#) in Feb 2021 warning ship-owners on Low Flashpoint VLSFO fuels in the port of Singapore.

This is to alert you that the problem has not abated and there is an increasing trend of Low Flashpoint VLSFO deliveries in Singapore in Feb/Mar 2021 with flashpoints as low as 52°C

SOLAS Chapter II-2, Part B, Reg. 4. Clause 2.1.1 states

“The following limitations shall apply to the use of oil as fuel, except as otherwise permitted by this paragraph, no oil fuel with a flashpoint of less than 60°C shall be used.”

If your vessel has bunkered a low flashpoint fuel it is prudent to observe the below precautions.

- Vent all the fuel tanks.
- No Smoking, No naked flame and No hot work must be allowed at any areas near to tank air vents.
- Send additional tank(s) samples upon arrival in port to check the fuel properties and flash point results especially if there has been co-mingling of fuels in bunker tanks
- If the vessel is out at sea it may be possible to obtain dispensation from your Flag State Administration up to next arrival port
- Put the supplier on notice promptly and notify your P&I club.

ISO 4259 interpretation for tested flashpoint temperature is not taken into consideration here as the safety of on-board crew and vessel is of higher precedence.

This document however does not reflect on the overall quality of fuel being supplied at Singapore, if you intend to bunker at this region please request for a Certificate of Quality prior to loading.

Maritec Pte Ltd can assist you in with further information on quality of bunkers tested in different regions.

If you require any other information or assistance do not hesitate to contact us.

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