OCN 7.5.9 Bilge and Ballast Handling Operations

Originator:	Approved By:
Richard Morris	J.L. Coburn, Jr.

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to provide the correct handling of bilge and ballast waters for pollution prevention aboard R/V Oceanus.

2. Responsibility

The Chief Engineer is responsible for all bilge and ballast handling operations. The Senior Engineer is assigned the duty of bilge transfer, Oily Water Separator (OWS) operations and maintenance of systems.

3. References

a. P.B.I Drawing #9250-545-1 Sheet 10

4. Procedure

Bilge Water

All bilges are pumped to the aft engine room bilge pocket and allowed to settle before being pumped overboard via the OWS. The OWS takes suction for discharging over the side provided the Oil Content Meter is at less that 15 PPM. OWS procedures are on page 2 of this procedure.

Ballast Water

The procedures outlined in the Ballast Water Maintenance Plan (BWMP) should be adhered to. The point of ballast water pollution prevention is to stop the introduction of non-native species of sea animals and plants to foreign coastal shores. Any ballast water taken on at a coastal area less than 200 miles from shore or less than 2000 meters depth, should only be discharged in the same area or in “open ocean”. It is preferred that only “open ocean” ballast water be taken on and discharged to the “open ocean”.

5. Reporting

The taking on and discharging of ballast water should be noted in the Ballast Water Management Plan (BWMP).

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Oily Water Separator Procedures

A. Line up the overboard valve located on the discharge manifold.
B. Line up the salt water supply valve located above the fuel oil manifold.
C. Close the breaker to power up the OWS located in P418 breaker #6.
D. Turn on the power to the OWS unit (Manual Mode).
E. Turn on the power to the monitor that will line up power to the content meter.
F. Turn the content meter power switch on for Auto mode.
G. Line up the fresh water valve to the content meter and set the pressure in the green range of the pressure gauge.
H. Flush out the OWS using the manual back-flush button.

Note: After approximately one minute of back flushing, the OWS shell and oil content meter will indicate that you are ready to run the pump and begin transferring bilge water.

I. Release the manual back flush button. The pump should come on.
J. Line up the sample valve from the OWS to the oil content meter and close the fresh water supply.

The OWS will monitor the water and produce a PPM scale on the front of the content meter. As long as the output is less than 15-PPM, the unit will function until the unit pocket is emptied. Any high readings will cause the unit to go into the recirculating mode until the output is back below the 15-PPM range. The oil discharge mode will occur whenever the OWS has enough oil to cause the unit to discharge into the dirty oil tank or if the pocket has been pumped below suction.

To secure the unit, manually back flush the OWS for approximately one minute and flush out the oil content meter with fresh water. Next, turn off the power to the oil content meter (on the meter and OWS controller). Secure the power at the power panel after the time delay and secure the salt-water supply and overboard valves.