

Notices to Members

No. 8 2014/2015 - US Vessel Response Plans - Non-Tank Final Rule - Update

June 2014

Dear Sirs,

US Vessel Response Plans – Non-Tank Final Rule – Update

We refer to previous Notices to Members concerning implementation of the US Non-Tank Final Rule in January 2014, particularly Notice to Members No. 29 2013/2014.

In view of the volume of applications for approval of non-tank vessel response plans around the implementation date, the United States Coast Guard (USCG) issued a number of Interim Operating Authorisations (IOA) to vessel operators giving them additional time to comply with the regulations.

These IOAs will expire on 31 July 2014. In a recent Marine Safety Information Bulletin the USCG have warned that absent any evidence that vessel operators have been diligent in their efforts to comply with the regulations, there is no intention to issue further IOAs.

Members whose non-tank vessels trade to the US or are likely to do so and who have yet to receive final approval of their vessel response plan by the USCG are therefore strongly advised to liaise with their QI/plan writer as soon as possible in order to ensure full compliance with USCG regulations before 31 July 2014.

Members requiring further advice or assistance are advised to contact the Managers.

Yours faithfully

For: **West of England Insurance Services (Luxembourg) S.A.**
(As Managers)

A Paulson
Director

-