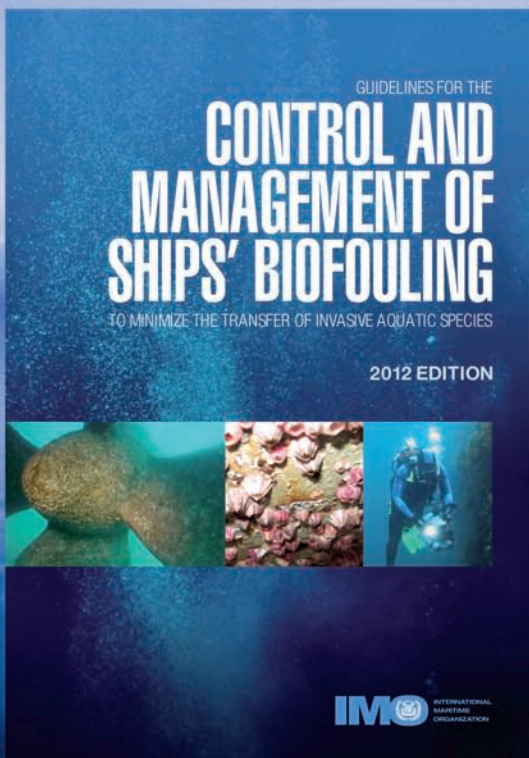


GUIDELINES FOR THE  
**CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT  
OF SHIPS' BIOFOULING**  
TO MINIMIZE THE TRANSFER OF INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES

**2012 EDITION**

VISIT [WWW.IMO.ORG](http://WWW.IMO.ORG) FOR YOUR LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR



**IMO** INTERNATIONAL  
MARITIME  
ORGANIZATION

**IMO** INTERNATIONAL  
MARITIME  
ORGANIZATION

**IMO** INTERNATIONAL  
MARITIME  
ORGANIZATION  
**PUBLISHING**

GUIDELINES FOR THE

# CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF SHIPS' BIOFOULING

TO MINIMIZE THE TRANSFER OF INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES

## 2012 EDITION

The introduction of harmful aquatic organisms to new environments by ships has been identified as a major threat to the world's oceans and to the conservation of biodiversity. Biofouling, described as the undesirable accumulation of microorganisms, plants, algae and animals on submerged structures (especially ships' hulls), is considered one of the main vectors for bioinvasions.

These Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species are intended to provide a globally consistent approach to the management of biofouling. They were adopted by the Marine Environment Protection Committee of IMO at its sixty-second session, from 11 to 15 July 2011, in the form of resolution MEPC.207(62) and are the result of three years of consultation between IMO Member States. The Guidelines represent a decisive step towards regulating the transfer of aquatic invasive species by ships.

**Sales number:** I662E  
**ISBN:** 978-92-801-1545-1

Available online as a download



**IMO Publishing**  
4 Albert Embankment  
London SE1 7SR  
United Kingdom  
Email [sales@imo.org](mailto:sales@imo.org)  
[www.imo.org](http://www.imo.org)

Print managed by Spinnaker Print Limited  
ISO 14001 environmental accredited printer.  
Printed using vegetable based inks.



This is printed on FSC material under chain of custody conditions by an FSC accredited printer.

**Visit [www.imo.org](http://www.imo.org) for your local distributor**