



Questions

Responses

(As of February 2020)

Will compliant bunkers be available in your jurisdiction?



Yes, here are the Companies that provide compliant bunkers on each port:

- Barranquilla: CI International, Terpel, Terra Bunkering, Australian Bunkering, Caribbean Bunkers;
- Buenaventura: Australian Bunker Supplier's y CI International Fuels;
- Cartagena: Codis, Australian Bunker Supplier's, CI International Fuels;
- Santa Marta: C.I. International Fuels.

Which government body or organization issues fines for sulphur violations?



The Maritime General Directorate and Ministry of Environment. In Colombia there is not an enforceable law sanctioning sulphur violations. However, the Maritime General Directorate assesses the Safety Management and Environmental Protection System of each vessel and if no reference is made to air pollution prevention, sanctions may be imposed and an arrest may occur.

What is the estimated potential value of fines?



The value of the fines are discretionally imposed by the Maritime General Directorate. On April 2019 a fine of 670 SMLV (588.128.010 COP) was imposed for a breach to the local maritime regulations.

Is there a possibility of criminal action for sulphur violations?



No, Sulphur emissions are not an offense contained in the Colombian Criminal Code. However, if a vessel causes a proven environmental damage or pollution, criminal action may take place.

Can a ship be detained for violations?
If so, will a club LOU be accepted to secure its release?



In Colombia, it is not possible to present a Letter of Understanding. However, it is possible to grant a Letter of Warranty, which must be signed by the P&I Insurance and its local correspondent. The value of the Warranty shall be determined by the General Maritime Directorate in proportion to the damage caused.

Is it possible to appeal fines?



Yes. The process is regulated by the Colombian Administrative Code, which allows to appeal fines and sanctions imposed by any governmental body.

What contingency measures are available for ships carrying non-compliant fuel.



In the first place, the implementation of a comprehensive Safety Management and Environmental Protection System, which includes air pollution prevention. Accordingly, even when Colombia is not a signatory of MARPOL Annex VI, we highly suggest to fulfill a FONAR.

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