

FOBAS Alert



12th November 2019

Off Spec Sediment Fuels from Antwerp

In the last week, FOBAS has tested a number of samples from Antwerp, which were ordered as RMG380 (HSFO) and RMD80 (ULSFO) grades. However, Total Sediment Potential results were above the ISO 8217:2017 limit of 0.10 % m/m. Other fuel parameters indicate satisfactory results.

Fuels with high sediments can result in excessive sludge deposition in tanks and throughout the handling and treatment/fuel injection systems, possibly leading to engine fuel starvation due to blocked filters. Furthermore, the attempted use of such fuels can result in highly compromised combustion leading to engine and turbocharger damage.

In view of the above, if your ships are planning to bunker in that region, we recommend that suppliers are advised of your concerns regarding the stability of the fuel in the area, and that they provide you with additional reassurance that they will adhere to the ISO 8217 requirements for the grade ordered.

Additional attention should be given to the collection of bunker samples. It should be ensured that all parties have witnessed the sampling process and have signed witness forms accordingly, and that the supporting documentation includes records of all the samples considered representative of the fuel as loaded.

In order for some of the documents on this page to be read in full, Adobe Acrobat Reader is required. It can be downloaded [here](#).

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If you require any further information about this Bulletin, please contact us at fobas@lr.org or speak to one of our consultants on +44 (0)330 414 1000 (Southampton UK), +44 (0)1642 440991 Redcar (UK), +65 3163 0888 (Singapore), +30 210 4580 874 (Greece). For anything urgent, please contact us via our out of office number, +44 (0)1642 425660.