



DHI

Agern Allé 5
2970 Hørsholm

+45 4516 9200 Telefon
+45 4516 9292 Telefax

tma@dhigroup.com
www.dhigroup.com

DHI Ballast Water Centre

DHI will re-arrange the activities related to type approval of ballast water management systems from 1st March 2018 onwards. Shipboard testing will continue to be performed by DHI Singapore and DHI Denmark - this collaboration enables DHI to complete a large number of shipboard tests and meet the requests of the manufacturers. Land-based testing of ballast water management systems will continue at DHI's land-based test facility in Denmark.

The land-based testing requirements in the regulations pose an increasing challenge to successful type approval testing in tropical environments, which is further affected by the challenging local biological conditions in Singapore waters. The requirement for the density of living organisms in the size class 10-50 μm in the challenge water is difficult to fulfil in Singapore, as the dominating organisms in the local waters are smaller than 10 μm in the minimum dimension. The preparation of the challenge water, therefore, requires the addition of standard test organisms cultured in the laboratory with a substantial work effort. Furthermore, the constant temperature around 30°C is limiting the survival of the organisms in the untreated control in the type approval tests with the result that the requests for longer holding times than 48 hours in type approval tests cannot be met at the test facility in Singapore.

DHI Singapore has therefore decided to continue with shipboard testing, finalize the ongoing land-based testing projects and close the land-based test facility after all land-based tests have been successfully completed.

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Torben Madsen
Vice President, DHI Ballast Water Centre

Stéphanie Groen
Managing Director, Singapore

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