

Annex III

Applies to all ships carrying harmful substances in packaged forms, or in freight containers, portable tanks or road and rail tank wagons. Annex III requires standards on packaging, marking, labeling, documentation, stowage, quantity limitations, exceptions and notifications for preventing or minimizing pollution by harmful substances. The U.S. implements MARPOL 73/78 Annex III under the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (HMTA), codified within 46 USC 2101. The implementing regulations are in 49 CFR 171 -174 and 176.

For the purpose of Annex III, “harmful substances” are those substances which are identified as marine pollutants in the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code), also defined in U.S. domestic regulations under 49 CFR 171.4 and 171.8. On 5 November 1992, the U.S. Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) amended the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR, 49 CFR 100-177) to list and regulate these marine pollutants in all modes of transportation. Under the HMR, marine pollutants are listed in a separate appendix, (Appendix B to 49 CFR 172.101 – List of Marine Pollutants). In accordance with 49 CFR 172.322, “marine pollutant mark” is required for those materials. The marine pollutant mark is in addition to any existing labels or placards designating a hazardous substance.