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Ships and marine technology — Aquatic nuisance species —

Part 2:

Ballast water sample collection and handling

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Foreword

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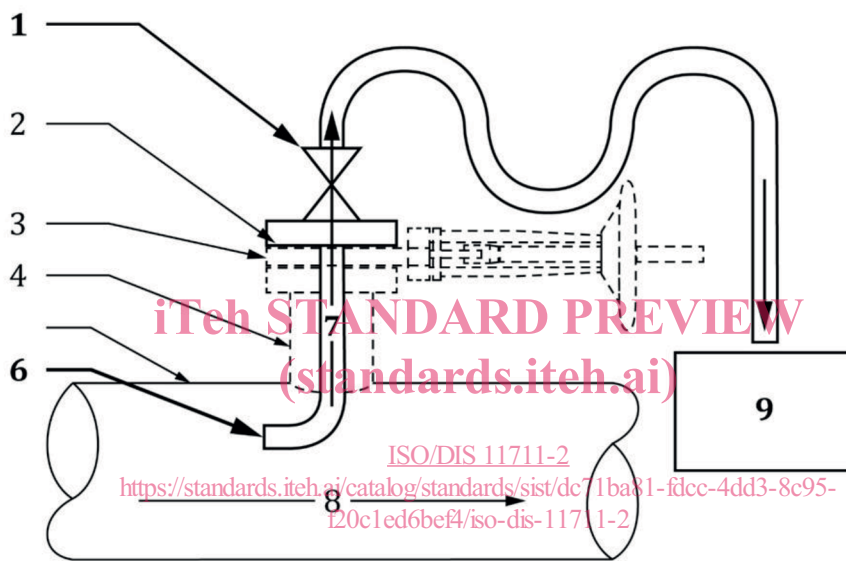
This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 8, *Ships and marine technology*.

A list of all parts in the ISO 11711 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Sampling guidance provided by ISO 11711 is intended to standardize measurement of organism concentrations through sampling of a ship's ballast discharge consistent with the requirements of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Regulation D-2. ISO 11711 consists of three parts, where Part 1 provides guidance on the shipboard arrangements for piping and fittings necessary for sampling and return ports, and it standardizes the presentation of the sampling port to accommodate various sampling probe configurations. Part 2 of the standard addresses the process of collecting and processing ballast water samples for subsequent analysis. This document provides guidance to ballast water sampling teams and other concerned parties on the apparatus, installation, and procedures required to obtain representative samples of ballast water discharges from sample ports on a ship. These concepts are illustrated in [Figure 1](#). A future third part of 11711 will provide methodologies to analyse the samples and determine compliance with the ballast water discharge performance standard.



Key

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | Sample collection device isolation valve | 6 | Sample probe |
| 2 | Sample port access flange | 7 | Sample water flow |
| 3 | Sample port valve | 8 | Ballast water flow |
| 4 | Sample port | 9 | Sample collection device |
| 5 | Ballast discharge pipe | | |
- - - - - ISO 11711-1 Ballast Water Sampling Port Fitting Arrangements
 _____ ISO 11711-2 On-Board Ballast Water Sampling and Sample Processing

Figure 1 — Illustration of the scopes of ISO 11711-1 and 11711-2

NOTE 1 Figure not to scale

NOTE 2 The figure shows a sample port arranged perpendicular to the main ballast flow

NOTE 3 See [Annex A](#) for example configurations of sample collection devices and their connection to ballast piping

Ships and marine technology — Aquatic nuisance species —

Part 2: Ballast water sample collection and handling

1 Scope

This document provides guidance to ballast water sampling teams or other concerned parties on the selection and use of sampling apparatus needed to collect and process ballast water discharge samples aboard a ship from sample ports installed in accordance with ISO 11711-1. It includes an overview of the sampling process, discussion on design and maintenance of sample probes, necessary sample flow rates, sample collection devices that incorporate sample flow control to maintain representative sampling conditions, and handling of samples for subsequent analyses. The purpose and required statistical confidence of measurements will dictate sample collection timing (e.g. beginning, middle, end of the discharge), duration (i.e. collection time), volume collected, and volume analysed. Thus, these measurement requirements must be defined by the sampling team for each sampling event; this document defines the necessary parameters but does not specify their values.

Specifically, this document defines appropriate sample probe and sample flow control to achieve representative sampling and minimize measurement uncertainty consistent with measurement requirements. Appropriate sample volumes and collection times provide statistical confidence for viable organism counts at the discharge limit. Regulation D-2 requires the measurement of two organism size classes: ≥ 10 and $< 50 \mu\text{m}$ (< 10 organisms ml^{-1}) and $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$ (< 10 organisms m^{-3}), and three indicator microbes: toxigenic *Vibrio cholerae* (serotypes O1 and O139, < 1 cfu 100 ml^{-1} or < 1 cfu g^{-1} wet weight zoopl.), *Escherichia coli* (< 250 cfu 100 ml^{-1}), and intestinal enterococci (< 100 cfu 100 ml^{-1}). Sampling approaches for each are provided, where both indicative and detailed analyses of viable organisms are supported, as defined by BWM.2-Circ.42/Rev.1, as may be amended, and considering the criteria in ISO 17025 for quality management, measurement uncertainty, and standardized procedures. Additional information on uncertainty will be available in Part 3 of 11711. ISO 11711 does not intend to add any requirements to the BWM Convention or related documents of IMO, but provides supplemental guidance for sampling of ballast water.

In practice, activities of the sampling team must be coordinated with the actions of the ship and crew. This is necessary both for safety and to schedule the collection and processing of ballast water samples. In preparation for sampling, the sample probe must be installed in the shipboard sample port and connected to the sample collection apparatus. Similarly, the return port when present, is connected as needed. Selection of the sample probe and other sample collection apparatus appropriate for the ship discharge will be determined by the sample collection team according to the guidance in this document, and the timing of sample collection will be determined by the measurement requirements, as described in [Clause 4.3.1](#), for the ballast discharge.

Certain information regarding the ship's ballasting and ballast water management systems is required by the sampling team in advance of the sampling event in order to determine the appropriate safety procedures, materials, equipment, and sample collection parameters. A sampling requirements worksheet is provided as [Annex B](#) to facilitate documenting this information. However, sampling teams may require additional information not identified in this document, and they will need to address logistics for ship access that are outside the scope of this document.

This document primarily addresses the collection of ballast water *discharge* samples. However this guidance may also be applied to uptake samples with consideration of appropriate sample volumes given anticipated organism concentrations in ambient (as opposed to treated) waters.

NOTE While this document is focused on installations aboard a ship, it may be used for land-based facilities.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BWM/CONF/36. International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004

BWM, 2-Circ.42/Rev.1, Guidance on Ballast Water Sampling and Analysis for Trial Use in Accordance with the BWM Convention and Guidelines (G2)

MEPC, 300(72), Code for Approval of Ballast Water Management Systems (BWM Code)

ISO 5667-3, *Water quality — Sampling — Part 3: Preservation and handling of water samples*

ISO 11711-1:2019, *Ships and marine technology — Aquatic nuisance species — Part 1: Ballast water discharge sample port*

ISO 17602, *Ships and marine technology — Metal valves for use in flanged pipe — Face-to-face and centre-to-face dimensions*

ISO/IEC 17025, *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 11711-1 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 absolute pore size

pore size based on empirical measurements of the pores in a filter

3.2 capture efficiency

measurement of organism retention in a sample collection apparatus, typically expressed as a percentage

3.3 challenge water

water supplied to a treatment system under test

Note 1 to entry: Challenge water may be required to meet specified ranges for living organism densities and water quality parameters and is used to assess the efficacy of the treatment system under full-scale operational conditions.

[SOURCE: EPA/600/R-10/146]

3.4**closed loop configuration**

sampling arrangement that returns the filtered water to the ballast discharge pipe

3.5**closed system**

sample collection device that houses a *filter* (3.10) within a sealable container having inlet and outlet connections

Note 1 to entry: The filter used to concentrate organisms is typically made of metal or nylon mesh (see 6.1.2).

Note 2 to entry: A closed system may be operated in either *open loop configuration* (3.19) or *closed loop configuration* (3.4).

3.6**collection container**

container used to obtain, hold, and transport water samples

3.7**concentration factor**

ratio of filtrate volume to *filtrand* (3.11) volume

3.8**depth filtration**

filtration method where particles are captured within the filter media rather than on the surface of the *filter* (3.10)

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3.9**effective surface area**

filter (3.10) area available for filtration

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3.10**filter**

barrier that is introduced to retain organisms and particles of a given size while smaller particles are allowed to pass through

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3.11**filtrand**

concentrated sample, used in whole or in part for analysis, that is collected during the concentration process

3.12**filtrate**

water that passes through a filter

3.13**filtration velocity**

flow velocity (3.14) through filter pores

Note 1 to entry: Using SI, this parameter is expressed as meters per second.

3.14**flow velocity**

distance travelled by a fluid per unit time (independent of any pipe dimensions)

Note 1 to entry: Using SI, this parameter is expressed as meters per second.

3.15**hot-tap sample probe assembly**

sample probe assembly that can be installed into and removed from a water-filled, pressurized ballast pipe

3.16
maximum allowable working pressure
MAWP

maximum pressure that the weakest component in a pressurized system is designed to withstand

3.17
measurement requirements

specific requirements needed to support the purpose of the measurement, including sample timing, volume, duration, a specific ballast tank or sampling location, and acceptable measurement uncertainty (see [4.3.1](#))

3.18
nominal pore size

pore size specified by the filter manufacturer to identify the size of particles typically retained by the filter ([3.10](#))

3.19
open loop configuration

sampling arrangement that returns the filtered water to an unpressurized container (e.g., bilge)

3.20
open system

sample collection device that houses a filter ([3.10](#)) within an open container (e.g., open tank with plankton net ([3.22](#)))

Note 1 to entry: A closed system may be operated in either *open loop configuration* ([3.19](#)) or *closed loop configuration* ([3.4](#)).

3.21
operation, maintenance, and safety manual
OMSM

reference manual supplied by the manufacturer for a BWMS product that identified factors that affect the operation of the BWMS, including any warm-up or other requirements that must be completed to achieve operational stability

Note 1 to entry: The OMSM specifies what constitutes stable operating conditions for the BWMS, factors that may affect operating conditions, and any adjustments required to reach or to maintain a stable operating condition.

3.22
plankton net

conical filter device that collects organisms in a removable cod end; filter material is a fabric net with a specific pore size, and the device can be towed in open waters or used as a filter in an open system for organism concentration

3.23
representative sampling

sampling methodology that obtains concentrations and compositions of constituent materials and organisms that are in the proportions and physical state of the source volume of interest

Note 1 to entry: In the case of ballast water sampling, representative conditions are considered under fully turbulent flow, where an appropriate sited sample probe obtains a sample at a flow velocity of $1 \times$ to $0,25 \times$ the flow velocity of the water in the ballast discharge pipe, thus sample flow is isokinetic or sub-isokinetic.

3.24
sample collection device

device that can concentrate and collect the larger class of organisms (via a filter or plankton net), collect a whole water sample, or both

[SOURCE: ISO 11711-1]

Note 1 to entry: A sample collection device may consist of multiple individual systems, e.g. multiple *closed systems* ([3.5](#)), each housing a filter ([3.10](#)).

3.25**sample collection team**

personnel that are responsible for setting up the sample collection device, collecting and retrieving the ballast water samples

3.26**sample collection device isolation valve**

full port valve used to isolate the sample collection device from the ballast discharge pipe

3.27**sample flow control valve**

valve used to regulate the sample flow rate

3.28**sample hold time**

duration between end of sample collection and start of analysis

3.29**sample probe bend radius**

radius of the curvature in the sample probe as measured at the centreline

3.30**sample probe entrance length**

distance from the sample probe opening prior to beginning of any bend

3.31**sample probe insertion length**

distance from the diametric centre of the sample probe entrance to the sample port access flange when installed into the ballast discharge pipe

3.32**sample probe opening**

entrance through which the water from the ballast discharge pipe enters the sample probe

3.33**surface filtration**

filtration where particles and organisms are collected on the surface of a barrier

3.34**test cycle**

testing iteration (to include uptake, treatment, holding and discharge as appropriate) under a given set of requirements used to establish the ability of a BWMS to meet the set discharge standards

[SOURCE: IMO MEPC.300(72), BWMS Code, [3.15](#)]

3.35**treatment hold time**

duration between the end of ballast water uptake and beginning of ballast water discharge, consistent with the time stipulated on the type approval certificate

3.36**volumetric flow rate**

volume of fluid passing per unit time, calculated from *flow velocity* ([3.14](#)) and cross section area

Note 1 to entry: In ballast water operations, this parameter is typically expressed in cubic metres per hour.

Note 2 to entry: Using SI, this parameter is expressed in cubic metres per second.

4 Sample collection process

4.1 General

The sampling team shall conduct shipboard sampling operations appropriate to the ship, its ballast system, and discharge procedures. Prior to sampling, essential information shall be collected to choose sampling equipment appropriate for the anticipated ballast discharge; ideally this is done prior to boarding the ship, but this may not always be possible. Consultation and coordination with the ship's crew are necessary to understand BWMS operations, determine ballasting parameters, identify sampling locations (typically in a machinery space), install or remove the sampling equipment, and coordinate the start and stop of sampling during the ballast operations. Sampling parameters are dictated by the measurement requirements, e.g. the timing for a type approval sampling event may be conducted over an entire discharge of a specific ballast tank, while collection of an indicative compliance sample may occur over a specified number of minutes from a tank of convenience.

In general, the sampling process includes:

1. Installation of an appropriately sized sample probe into the ship's sample port
2. Connection of the sample collection device, typically an open or closed sample system which may collect large volumes ($\geq 1 \text{ m}^3$) of filtered water to analyse organisms $\geq 50 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$, and/or smaller volumes of whole water ($\geq 10 \text{ l}$) to analyse smaller organisms
3. Preparation of rinse water (microfiltered, free of organisms in the size class(es) of interest) from ship's ballast water
4. Collection of ballast water samples over a duration appropriate to the measurement requirements and ship operations
5. Processing of collected samples
6. Transporting samples for off-ship analyses, if necessary
7. Disassembling, removing, and cleaning of sampling apparatus from the ship

NOTE A minimum volume of 3 m^3 of filtered water to analyse organisms $\geq 50 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ is recommended; this volume is consistent with the requirements of BWMS type approval testing.

4.2 Fundamental principles

At all times the sampling team shall consider safety of personnel and equipment when conducting shipboard operations. Any actions which require access or interaction with the ship's ballast system shall be performed in consultation with the ship's crew and in accordance with ship policy. Only the ship's crew or their delegate shall operate the ballast system or ship's equipment (e.g. electrical supply, bilges, pneumatic supplies).

Sample collection apparatus and handling procedures shall be designed to collect representative samples under fully turbulent flow conditions and shall minimize effects on organisms and the potential for contamination. Sample probes shall be cleaned according to standard operating procedures (SOPs) and verified free of visual foreign matter prior to installation. The probes may be installed for the duration of the test cycle but should be removed for cleaning after no more than one week. Semi-permanent or permanent sample probes shall not be used for sample collection.

Flow measurement is required for both the ballast discharge flow and the sample collection flow. As internal dimensions of the ballast discharge pipe are not readily observable, measuring the flow velocity near the sample probe is preferred. Measurement using the ship's flow meter or other direct measurement is a section of ballast discharge pipe with the same diameter and flow stream (e.g. at the return port) is also acceptable. Electronic logging of flow data are preferred to logging measurements by hand. Flow measurement device(s) shall be calibrated according to the sampling team's protocols and manufacturer's requirements.

4.2.1 Sample collection flow, duration, and volume

The requirements for organism density resolution and measurement uncertainty shall dictate the sample volumes to be collected. The sample collection duration shall also be based on the end use requirements of the organism density measurement (e.g. port state control, type approval, general compliance). The uncertainty of a single sample event should be considered, as multiple sample events may reduce measurement uncertainty. Best practices shall be employed to avoid sampling bias in the selection of sampling times and sample handling protocols. Note that *flow velocity* is independent of the size of the pipe (and thus facilitates comparisons between different pipe sizes), while *volumetric flow rate* incorporates the cross-sectional area of the pipe; either term may be used.

Ship ballast discharge operations may dictate the time available for sample collection and the ballast discharge flow rates. The ballast discharge flow rate, ballast discharge pipe inner diameter, sample volume, and sample collection duration are parameters necessary to determine the appropriate sample collection flow velocity. To ensure isokinetic to sub-isokinetic conditions, the sample flow velocity must be between the range of 0,25 to 1 times the ballast discharge flow velocity. Sample collection flow velocity shall not exceed 3,0 m s⁻¹ and subsequent sample handling shall minimize any effect on organism viability.

The volume of the sample that is analysed may be less than the volume of sample collected; the analysis volume shall be based on the methodology employed and required statistical confidence of the measurement (see 4.3.1).

4.3 Preparation

The sample collection team shall determine the measurement-specific information discussed in this section prior to boarding the ship. Information describing the installed BWMS and its treatment process shall also be identified prior to boarding the ship. Any requirements for personal protective equipment shall be in accordance with the ship and the sampling organization. The sample collection worksheet in [Annex B](#) may be helpful as a template for documenting the measurement-specific information discussed below.

4.3.1 Measurement requirements and purpose of the sample

Measurement requirements shall specify measurement uncertainty and thus the minimum volume of sample collected for a given analysis method. The duration of sample collection must also be specified. In general, detailed measurements require suitable volumes in order to resolve concentrations of sparsely distributed organisms; this will be dependent on the discharge limits for the organism size class. The required volumes, therefore, will depend upon the reporting limit and uncertainty and will therefore vary with analysis objectives. Special requirements (e.g. sampling of discharges from a specific tank) shall be identified during preparation for the sample collection and analysis activities. The purpose of the sample (i.e. regulatory, compliance, type approval, self-monitoring, etc.) generally drives the requirements for measurement uncertainty and identifies the waters to be sampled.

4.3.2 Ship access and sampling facilities in machinery spaces

Access shall be arranged in accordance with the ship's requirements (and local maritime authorities if needed). The sample collection team shall communicate requirements for transport of equipment to the ship, and request information on the ship's ballast system. As sampling locations are in machinery spaces, e.g. the engine room of the ship, sampling apparatus shall be designed to be carried by hand or assembled in place unless other arrangements are made in advance. Information requested from the ship should identify:

- Special safety requirements in the space where the sample port is located (e.g. explosion proof)
- Compliance of the sample port with ISO 11711-1 (thus is also compliant with the G2 guidelines of BWM Convention)
- Type of port configuration (in-line, 45°, or 90°)