

Milbros answers all the questions

A huge library is available on all things that you need to know for the carriage of chemical and petroleum products in bulk.

With the launch of Heidenreich Innovations From/To Cleaning module on www.Milbros.com, Tanker Operator asked the company why such a guide was needed today and what it entailed.

Capt Soren Ibsen, vice president Milbros Systems, explained that the system provides all the information that is required for the carriage of chemical and petroleum products in bulk.

It compiles a library of books and documents in one easy to use location and is available to users whenever an internet connection is available.

The system contains the following:

- Specifications and handling information.
- IBC Code information for all chemical cargoes classified for carriage in bulk.
- USCG compatibility matrix and reactivity information.
- Coating resistance information for over 40 different tank coatings.
- Tank Cleaning recommendations.
- Safety information and MSDS.
- Library of chemical/product tanker operations related documents.
- Over 11,000 product names, trade names and synonyms.

Capt Ibsen also said that specifically, the From/To Cleaning module includes:

- Energy Institute HM50 matrix cleaning recommendations.
- Milbros CPP/DPP/commodity chemical cleaning matrix recommendations.
- Edible oil cargo prior cargo restriction warning.
- Wallwash/PFT information/warnings.
- Epoxy coating aggressive cargo sequencing warning.
- Incompatible cargo sequencing warning.
- Water-White standard cleaning recommendations.

There is also a booking module, which will create and e-mail a booking list with all needed cargo information for the voyage, create and e-mail a stowage plan with the

proposed stowage and give a compatibility check for USCG group and heat adjacent problems.

He claimed that Milbros has features that other similar consultancies don't have. However, the main difference is that the system is designed to be a company's private cargo information database.

With a premium subscription, users can update cargo specifications and handling requirements and enter specifications plus handling requirements for each of their charterers/customers. It allows the saving of attached files (spreadsheets, documents, photos) and also allows a company to create private cleaning procedures for their fleet. All the data is private and confidential and is only available to company users.

IBC Code

Turning the IBC Code, Capt Ibsen said that it had been around since 1986 and before that it was called the BCH Code.

In 2007, there were significant changes made to the IBC code where all chemical cargo carriage requirements changed from a five category (A,B,C,D,App.3) system to a four category (X,Y,Z,OS) system.

He said that Milbros was fully ready for those changes and provided the data needed for chemical tanker operations effective 1st January, 2007 and today continues to monitor changes at the IMO with regards to the IBC Code.

Capt Ibsen said that he is a regular participant at the BLG Working Group on the Evaluation of Safety and Pollution Hazards of Chemicals (ESPH) meetings at the IMO. The system will get updated with changes, as they become approved at the IMO and Heidenreich's customers are notified of changes and proposed changes.

He explained that the prior cargo requirements have been in place for the carriage of edible cargoes/oils for many years. The Milbros system includes prior cargo suitability information for the carriage of

subsequent edible oil cargoes.

Milbros has resistance information on 43 different tank coatings used in the chemical and product tanker trades. Resistance information and notes, as per the coating manufacturers guidelines, are included.

In addition, the system has information on over 700 grades of crude oil. "In general, most epoxy coatings are resistant to all crude oils and we do not see the selection of cargo tank coatings to be a particular problem," he said.

He thought that chemical tankers face more prior cargo restrictions than product tankers and that went beyond just edible oils. However, product tankers also face last cargo restrictions for aviation fuels and ultra low sulphur fuels, as well as other products and the Milbros From/To cleaning module will advise of those restrictions to operators.

More complicated

Parcel/chemical tankers are much more complicated and operators and crew need to be familiar with many more regulations, handling and safety requirements, he said. Again Milbros provides this information in an easy to use system.

He concluded by saying that the system has been accumulating data for the carriage of chemical and oil products for the past 20 years and currently has industry experts with over 90 years of experience in the chemical tanker industry providing the input.

Heidenreich Innovations was founded in 2008 and since then has developed several software products that are marketed to the oil, chemical and drybulk industries. The company has over 800 clients with an aggregate fleet of over 6,500 ships.

Also in 2008 Heidenreich acquired Milbros Software and the software applications MCIS2007 and MASS. Milbros.com is the internet version of MCIS2007 which is the accumulation of cargo information over the past 20 years and beyond. In addition, the company manages Q88.com.

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