

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

CIRCULAR 051/2024

**ALERT: NEW OSRO REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED TO ALL VESSELS IN THE
MAIN WATERWAY OF THE HIDROVIA PARANA-PARAGUAY**

Please be informed that on 3rd October 2024, the Undersecretariat of Ports and Waterways enacted Disposition 23/2024 (DI-2024-23-APN-SSPYVN#MEC), which was published in Argentine Official Gazette (Boletín Oficial) on 9th October 2023 and will enter in force 30 (thirty) days after its publication (9th November 2024).

According to the new disposition, **ALL VESSELS AND/OR CONVOY OF BARGES, OF ANY TYPE, CARRYING ANY TYPE OF CARGO**, sailing through the Argentinean main waterway of the Hidrovia Parana-Paraguay (covering River Plate Basin, Parana River and its branches), shall compulsorily obtain an OSRO certificate issued by a local company approved by Coast Guards under the category A1.

In case of breach, the Owners and the agents will be held jointly and severally liable before the Administración General de Puertos SE (AGP – Port Administration), who will be entitled to appoint an OSRO on behalf of the Owners and charge, in that case, up to x3 times its value.

AGP is required to issue the relevant regulations to put into practice above disposition.

This Disposition has caught the concern of different sectors. It has been said that the Disposition would not have consensus in the Administration, and, that, the Ministry of Deregulation and Transformation of the Argentine State – appointed by the current President Mieli – would be seeking to repeal this new disposition.

We will monitor the situation and will keep you abreast of developments.

Yours Faithfully,

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NB. Circulars 39/2020 and 41/2021 are related to this topic and may be of interest.

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