

13 January 2000

## **TO ALL MEMBERS**

Dear Sirs

### **OIL POLLUTION : UNITED STATES NEW LEGISLATION IN CALIFORNIA FOR DRY CARGO SHIPS**

Further to the circular of 8 September 1999, attached is a letter received from the Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) of California's Department of Fish and Game advising that the Non-tank Vessel Contingency Plan regulations, which outline the requirements for submission and approval of oil spill contingency plans for non-tank vessels, were approved and were filed with the Secretary of State on 28 December 1999; so that the regulations enter into force on 3 February 2000.

The Certificate of Financial Responsibility (COFR) regulations also come into force on the same date.

Consequently, the Owners or operators of non-tank vessels entering Californian waters after 3 February 2000 must have submitted an oil spill contingency plan for the vessel to the OSPR for approval and must have obtained from the OSPR a state COFR for the vessel for US\$300,000,000 by that date.

#### **Oil Spill Contingency Plans**

Members will note from the attached circular that a copy of the final approved non-tank vessel contingency plan regulations can be found on Department of Fish and Game's homepage on the internet or can be obtained from the publishers.

#### **COFRs**

Members will also note that applications for a Certificate of Financial Responsibility can be obtained from the Department of Fish and Game's homepage at its internet address or by fax or telephone.

The Managers would be pleased to assist Members in complying with these regulations, as required.

Yours faithfully  
A BILBROUGH & CO LTD  
(MANAGERS)