

ANNOUNCEMENT TO SHIPPING
IJmond North Sea Canal Area
Central Nautical Management

Announcement No. 2026/40

Amsterdam, 22 September 2026

Subject: **1. adoption of the Action Plan for seagoing vessels carrying dry bulk cargo that has been fumigated with phosphine, for the municipalities of Amsterdam and Velsen, and**
 2. designation of berths in the Port of Amsterdam where inland vessels may berth after taking on fumigated cargo by transshipment, where the phosphine concentration exceeds the threshold limit value.

The Deputy Director of Central Nautical Management for the North Sea Canal Area (hereinafter: CNB), who is also the Deputy State Harbour Master and Deputy Harbour Master of Amsterdam, announces the following:

Seagoing vessels regularly berth in the ports of Amsterdam and Velsen, carrying solid bulk cargo that has been fumigated with phosphine abroad. Unlike fumigation carried out in the Netherlands, fumigation carried out abroad is not subject to national or international legislation. For these reasons, the Regional Port Byelaws for the North Sea Canal Area 2023 contain a provision concerning the adoption of a Action Plan. This provision also requires the nautical and operational handling of the seagoing vessel to take place in accordance with the adopted Action Plan and requires everyone to comply with it. The purpose of the Action Plan is to safeguard safety and the environment in the port and its surrounding area.

The existing Action Plans adopted by the Director of CNB for the municipalities of Amsterdam and Velsen needed to be updated. The reasons for the update are:

- the information to be reported concerning cargo treated with the fumigant phosphine was specified in the Action Plan and could not be transferred directly into the vessel traffic management systems. These systems have now been modified, and the reports are being incorporated into the reporting requirement under Article 3.10 of the Regional Port Byelaws for the North Sea Canal Area 2023. The existing decree, the Reporting Regulations for Seagoing Vessels in the North Sea Canal Area 2019, is being updated at the same time
- a method of mechanical ventilation has been developed. This method has been tested several times. The tests show that the method can be carried out safely and that phosphine concentrations decrease more rapidly, allowing the cargo to be unloaded sooner. This shortens the seagoing vessel's port stay, thereby improving port efficiency. This method of ventilation is being included in the Action Plan.
- following an incident involving an inland vessel at an inland port, it became apparent that, for emergency response purposes, a record must be kept of the inland vessels that have taken on such cargo. The Action Plan requires the surveyor or stevedore to maintain such a list. This must be done in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and
- the fumigators in charge have jointly drawn up a measurement protocol for measuring the phosphine concentration. This protocol, Guideline for Gas Measurements for Cargo That Has Been Fumigated with Phosphine Abroad (Richtlijn gasmetingen voor lading die in het buitenland is begast met fosfine), is prescribed in the Action Plan. It ensures that all fumigators in charge determine the concentration of the fumigant phosphine in the same way.

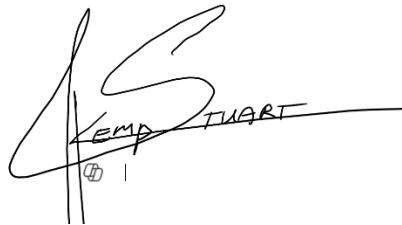
The Action Plan has been updated jointly by the Director of CNB for the municipalities of Amsterdam and Velsen and the State Harbour Master of Rotterdam for the municipalities of Rotterdam, Dordrecht, Papendrecht, Schiedam, Vlaardingen and Zwijndrecht.

Inland vessels onto which cargo has been transhipped that is not sufficiently free of fumigants cannot berth anywhere in the port. To safeguard safety in the port, these vessels must berth at designated berths. The relevant berths are shown in Annex 2 to this decree and in the drawing accompanying this decree.

The full decree can be accessed through:

<https://www.portofamsterdam.com/en/announcement/decree-adopting-action-plan-seagoing-vessels-whose-cargo-has-been-fumigated-phosphine>

The Deputy Director of Central Nautical Management for the North Sea Canal Area, who is also the Deputy State Harbour Master and Deputy Harbour Master of Amsterdam

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S.C. Kemp', with a horizontal line extending to the right. Below the signature, the words 'KEMP' and 'TUART' are printed in a small, sans-serif font.

S.C. Kemp