

BUNKER FLASH

Low Flashpoint VLSFO persisting in Singapore and Malaysia

Issued on 24 Aug.2021

Maritec Pte Ltd has tested several samples representing VLSFO deliveries in Singapore and Malaysia with flashpoint as low as 56°C for the period of 14th August 2021 to 21th August 2021 from various suppliers.

SOLAS Chapter II-2, Part B, Reg. 4. Clause 2.1.1 states

“The following limitations shall apply to the use of oil as fuel, except as otherwise permitted by this paragraph, no oil fuel with a flashpoint of less than 60°C shall be used.”

If your vessel has bunkered a low flashpoint fuel it is prudent to observe the below precautions.

- Flame screens on tank vents should be maintained in good condition and there should be no sources of ignition in the vicinity of the vents. This will assist in safe natural ventilation of volatile components in the fuel.
- No Smoking, No naked flame and No hot work must be allowed at any areas near to tank air vents.
- Send additional tank(s) samples upon arrival in port to check the fuel properties and flash point results especially if there has been co-mingling of fuels in bunker tanks
- If the vessel is out at sea it may be possible to obtain dispensation from your Flag State Administration up to next arrival port
- Put the supplier on notice promptly and notify your P&I club.

ISO 4259 interpretation for tested flashpoint temperature is not taken into consideration here as the safety of onboard crew and vessel is of higher precedence.

This document however does not reflect on the overall quality of fuel being supplied at Singapore, if you intend to bunker at this region please request for a Certificate of Quality prior to loading.

Maritec Pte Ltd can assist you in with further information on quality of bunkers tested in different regions. If you require any other information or assistance do not hesitate to [contact us](#).

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Please feel free to contact us:

Website: <http://www.maritec.com.sg>

Email: admin@maritec.com.sg

Tel: [+65 62718622](tel:+6562718622)

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