

10 TOP TIPS

for maintaining a Ballast Water Management System (BWMS)

Follow these best practices to keep your BWMS up-to-date with the latest regulatory requirements.

1

Follow the instructions: Ensure you have the latest BWMS operating and maintenance instructions on board and the crew knows where to find them.

2

Train your crew: Ensure that all crew members involved in operating the BWMS are trained and familiar with the onboard Ballast Water Management Plan, system operation, safety protocols, troubleshooting procedures and contingency measures.

3

Keep up with maintenance: Follow the vendor's recommended schedule for inspections and maintenance to ensure all components function properly.



Alfa Laval provides 24x7 global support with parts distribution centers in the Americas, Europe and Asia.

[Learn more](#) about our Marine Service.

4

Document everything: Maintain detailed logs of all ballast water operations as required by legislation, including intake and discharge, maintenance activities and any issues.

VGP data is submitted to EPA once a year. Having this documentation onboard for audits is required in the state of California (and a good idea everywhere in the US).

5

Monitor water quality and sedimentation: As per IMO regulations, regularly monitor the ballast water quality and sediment accumulation in each tank. All TA systems will log bypass, this is verified when type approved.

6

Calibrate your sensors: Recalibrate or replace sensors when the calibration has expired, in accordance with IMO or VGP requirements. It's also a good idea to have an annual health check performed by your vendor, including the analysis of water samples.

If you have a PureBallast system from Alfa Laval, we can take care of calibrating your sensors with our Compliance Service Package, which includes a health check, calibration, sampling and analysis, crew training, system updates and a compliance certificate.

7

Rehearse your contingency procedures: Your Ballast Water Management Plan should provide guidance on how to manage ballast water and sediments in all types of situations. Rehearse contingency procedures, including a Condition Water Quality procedure:

- Sampling plan preparation
- System Operation under normal conditions
- Water Sampling and Analysis
- Laboratory Testing
- Reporting & Compliance

8

Manage your chemicals: If the Ballast Water Management System uses chemicals for treatment, make sure these chemicals are managed and stored properly, that the correct dosages are used and that safety protocols are followed when handling them. Only use authorized chemicals.

9

Keep the BWMS software up-to-date: To ensure system compliance and proper operation, contact your vendor to ensure your system has the latest updates installed.

10

Comply with regulations: Stay informed about international, national and local regulations.



Why choose Alfa Laval?

Having replaced more than 250+ systems from 30 manufacturers, Alfa Laval has the expertise you can rely on to ensure compliance. We're a global organization with strong logistics, a local presence and more than 15 years of experience in ballast water management. We offer deep technical and practical knowledge, well-established partners, procedures and engineering support from start to finish.

What you get when choosing Alfa Laval

- A free onboard survey to ensure the right BWMS for your vessel
- Cost-effective solutions based on our extensive replacement experience
- Elimination of excessive OpEx costs and unreliable BWMS equipment
- Access to the latest connectivity equipment
- A two-year subscription for remote troubleshooting and performance monitoring
- Peace of mind with the market leader in ballast water management

With an Alfa Laval PureBallast system, you can treat ballast water without chemicals, combining high-performance filtration with enhanced UV treatment. We'll work with you as a trusted advisor, and you'll have peace of mind that your system is up-to-date and meets regulatory requirements with our Compliance Service Package.

[Contact us to speak with an Alfa Laval specialist.](#)

