As the requirement for ships including mobile offshore units (MOUs) to have an inventory of hazardous material (IHM) onboard draws closer, owners and operators, shipyards, and recycling facilities are assessing their current operations to find the right compliance solutions.

The primary regulations impacting the inventory of hazardous material are The Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, not yet in force, and the EU Regulation No 1257/2013 on Ship Recycling (EU SRR) which entered into force on 30 December 2013 and is applicable to marine and offshore vessels, including MOUs flagged with EU Member States and certain non-EU flagged vessels calling on EU ports.

Essential to the implementation scheme of the Hong Kong Convention and the EU SRR is the development and maintenance of a document referred to as the Inventory of Hazardous Materials (IHM), listing the type and amount of hazardous materials and their location on board. To support an effective plan to discard hazardous material, an IHM must be thorough and vessel specific.

Beyond guidance and to further support effective compliance, ABS helps owners prepare, verify and maintain an IHM. ABS has developed the user-friendly IHM application which assists owners in systematically collecting information for the preparation of a Visual and Sampling Check Plan for existing ships to develop Part I of the Inventory of Hazardous Materials. The IHM application allows the user to easily update the IHM, helping maintain proper documentation throughout the life of the vessel.

ABS can help owners and operators demonstrate their compliance with relevant regulations through a review of the IHM, surveys to verify the location of the hazardous materials on board that are listed in the IHM and issuance of associated review letters and Statements of Compliance.

An ABS team of subject matter and technical specialists are prepared to help deliver the right solution for your company.

Contact us today via email at environmentalcompliance@eagle.org