

Petroleum and Petrochemical Bulletin

Supply of Inspection Report Data to Third Parties

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IFIA members are occasionally requested to supply inspection reports to third parties, generally to assist in gathering data for vessel experience factor calculations.

Whilst not wishing to prevent those companies involved from attempting to expand their data resource, IFIA companies are pledged to operate in an ethical manner. Many inspection reports are prepared on instruction from a number of clients who are involved in the cargo transaction concerned and who are joint owners of the inspection data. Disclosure of such data to a third party without due authorisation may place the inspection company in breach of an obligation of confidentiality towards one or more of those joint owners.

It is therefore recommended that before any IFIA member company passes copies of reports and/or other information relating to an individual inspection to a third party, the IFIA member company should ensure that it has authority to do so from **all** the parties involved in the cargo transaction, either under the contractual terms applicable to its engagement or, if necessary, by obtaining specific written authorisation.

Individual IFIA members are strongly advised to comply with this advice and to seek the necessary approvals before complying with any request to forward inspection reports and data to third parties. However, it should be noted that IFIA member companies cannot be held responsible where their reports or data are distributed through either bespoke or undefined e-mail addresses which they have been legitimately requested to use by their Principals.

Should Principals and users of IFIA member company services have any concerns relating to this matter it is recommended that they resolve these directly with their respective trading partners.

IFIA Petroleum and Petrochemical Committee
Head office: Rue de Commerce 20-22 B-1000 Brussels
London office: 1 Paternoster Square, London EC4M 7DX

secretariat@ifia-federation.org
www.ifia-federation.org

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Revisions/Reaffirmations

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