

## Port Health Authority fines in Brazil

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Vessels arriving at Brazilian ports are subjected to very thorough inspections by the relevant Port Health Authority (PHA).

The below list outlines some of the main areas of inspection:

- Any consumption of medicines during the voyage to Brazil must be properly registered. Due to the current swine flu pandemic, any discrepancy may lead to the port health authorities suspecting the vessel of omitting any cases of illness on board.
- The vessel's deratisation certificate must be valid. If the certificate is due to expire before arrival at the Brazilian port, it should be renewed prior to departing for Brazil as the fact that it expired during the voyage may give rise to fines.
- The yellow fever certificates are valid and have been issued in the format recommended by the World Health Organization.
- The vessel's accommodation and galley is clean and free of insects.
- The vessel's hospital medical chest does not contain expired medicine.
- All preserved food is within its use by dates and stored away from cleaning materials.
- The sewage plant is fully workable and the chlorine tablets used corresponds to the size of the tubes. Broken tablets can give rise to fines as the health authority is of the view that broken tablets do not have same efficiency.



Shipowners not fully complying with the recommendations listed above have experienced both fines and delays during PHA inspections in Brazil. We therefore recommend that particular attention is placed on port calls to Brazil, and that the items listed above are properly adhered to. Your local agent will also be available to provide additional advice.

Gard is grateful to Messrs Representações Proinde Ltda. in Brazil for contributing to this circular.

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