



香港商船資訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Entry into Force of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships*To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Masters and Classification Societies***Summary**

The International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships (AFS Convention) will enter into force on 17 September 2008. This Note supersedes the previous HKMSIN No. 13/2002.

1. On 17 September 2007, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has issued a circular AFS.1/Circ.14 to notify that the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships (AFS Convention) has met the entry-into-force criteria and will enter into force internationally on **17 September 2008**. The AFS Convention prohibits the use of harmful organotins in anti-fouling paints used on ships. A copy of the IMO circular is attached for ready reference.

2. In order to avoid unnecessary inconvenience to the operation of Hong Kong registered ships pending for the entry into force of the AFS Convention, the following classification societies have been delegated by this Department to carry out survey as required by the AFS Convention in accordance with the “Guidelines for Survey and Certification of Anti-fouling Systems on Ships” and to issue the “Statement of Compliance”:

- American Bureau of Shipping (ABS);
- Bureau Veritas (BV);
- China Classification Society (CCS);
- Det Norske Veritas (DNV);
- Germanischer Lloyd (GL);
- Korean Register of Shipping (KR);
- Lloyd’s Register (LR);
- Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (NK); and
- RINA S.p.A. (RINA)

3. The issue of the Statement of Compliance is intended as an interim measure on a non-mandatory basis pending the entry into force of the AFS Convention and the necessary local legislation to implement the AFS Convention in Hong Kong SAR. Copies of the following IMO documents are available as attachments to this Note for reference on the website of Marine Department (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk>):

- AFS/CONF/26 – International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships, 2001 adopted by the Conference;
- resolution MEPC.102(48) – Guidelines for Survey and Certification of Anti-fouling Systems on Ships;
- resolution MEPC.104(49) – Guidelines for Brief Sampling of Anti-fouling Systems on Ships;
- resolution MEPC.105(49) – Guidelines for Inspection of Anti-fouling Systems on Ships.

4. Any enquiries on this Merchant Shipping Information Note may be directed to the Chief, Maritime Policy of the Multi-lateral Policy Division, Marine Department at telephone number (852) 2852 4603 or by fax at (852) 2542 4841.

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division

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