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HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974

To : *Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters and Classification Societies*

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned of the amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974 that will enter into force internationally on 1 January 2010. This Note supersedes Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 2/2009.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted the resolution MSC 256(84), MSC 257(84) and resolution MSC 258(84) to amend SOLAS 1974 and 1988 Protocol to SOLAS 1974 on 16 May 2008. The amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2010.

2. The amendments involve the following chapters of SOLAS:

Resolution	Chapter	Title
MSC 256(84)	II-1	Construction – Structure, Subdivision and Stability, Machinery and Electrical Installations
	II-2	Construction – Fire Protection, Fire Detection and Fire Extinction
	III	Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements
	IV	Radiocommunications
	Appendix	Certificates
MSC 257(84)	XI-1	Special Measures to Enhance Maritime Safety
MSC 258(84)	Appendix	Certificates

3. The details of these amendments can be found on the website of Marine Department (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk>) as attachments to this Note. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters and classification societies of Hong Kong registered ships are required to note the amendments and act accordingly.

4. A table listing the different sets of amendments to the SOLAS 1974 ever adopted by IMO with the date of entry in force on or before 1 January 2010 is attached as Annex 1 to this Note for easy reference.

5. This Note supersedes Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 2/2009.

Marine Department
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