

# **MARINE DEPARTMENT NOTICE NO. 145 OF 2006**

(Statutory Requirements and Related Information)

## **Implementation of Freight Containers (Safety) Ordinance, Cap.506**

The Freight Containers (Safety) Ordinance, Cap.506, together with its four pieces of subsidiary legislation: Freight Containers (Safety) (Applications for Approval of Containers) Regulation; Freight Containers (Safety) (Fees) Regulation; Freight Containers (Safety) (Arrangements for Authorized Persons) Order and Freight Containers (Safety) (Examination Procedure) Order, will come into force before end of this year. This legislation is for the purpose of implementing the "International Convention for Safe Containers, 1972" in Hong Kong. The Convention was adopted by the International Maritime Organization to standardize the requirements for testing, inspection and approval of freight containers, and to prescribe procedures for their maintenance, examination and control so as to ensure safety in handling, stacking and transportation of such containers.

Owners, bailees and lessees of freight containers are advised that under the Ordinance, the owner of a freight container has the duties to ensure that his container has valid approval and a valid safety approval plate fixed to it, is properly maintained and periodically examined, as well as having proper markings on it showing the maximum operating gross weight. In a case where there is an express term of a bailment or lease of a container, the bailee or lessee of the container is responsible for the abovementioned duties.

Full details of the Ordinance and its subsidiary legislation can be found on the website of Department of Justice at <http://www.legislation.gov.hk/eng/home.htm> and the Legal Supplement 1 of the Gazette published on 23 June 2006.

Any enquires concerning the Ordinance and its subsidiary legislation should be directed to the Shipping Safety Officer of Marine Industrial Safety Section, Marine Department at telephone number 2852 4470, fax number 2543 7209, e-mail address [miss@mardep.gov.hk](mailto:miss@mardep.gov.hk).

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