

MARINE DEPARTMENT NOTICE NO. 155 OF 2016

(Statutory Requirements)

Implementation of the

Merchant Shipping (Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships) Regulation

The new Merchant Shipping (Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships) Regulation, CAP 413N (the Regulation) will come into operation on 1 January 2017 to implement the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships 2001. Details of the Regulation and the Commencement Notice can be found respectively in the links as follows:-

<http://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/20151912/es22015191254.pdf>

<http://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/20162044/es220162044167.pdf>

2. The Regulation is applicable to all Hong Kong registered ships wherever they are, foreign ships within Hong Kong waters, as well as local vessels as defined in the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance, CAP 548. The Regulation prohibits the use of organotin compounds that act as biocides in the anti-fouling systems of ships for the protection of the marine environment.

3. For ships engaged in international voyage, a valid International Anti-Fouling System Certificate shall be carried on board in each ship of 400 gross tonnage (GT) or above. For a ship of 24 metres or more in length but less than 400 GT engaged in international voyage, no certification is needed but the ship is required to carry on board a declaration signed by the owner of the ship or his authorized agent to declare that the ship's anti-fouling system complies with the Regulation.

4. Shipowners, operators and coxswains of local vessels are required to observe and comply with the requirements of the Regulation. For enquiries, please contact the Senior Surveyor of Ships / Maritime Policy at telephone number 2852 4395 or by e-mail to "hkmpd@mardep.gov.hk".

Maisie CHENG

Director of Marine

Marine Department

Government of the HKSAR

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