### **Briefing session of**

# "Verification of Container Mass" (The new requirement)



# Origin of the new requirement

• In November 2014, the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of International Maritime Organization (IMO) officially adopted the "Guidelines Regarding the Verified Gross Mass of a Container Carrying Cargo" submitted by a working group under the committee.

- In July 2016, the guideline to be in force in all member states.
- 《Merchant Shipping (Safety)(Carriage of Cargo) Regulation》
   (Cap. 369AV) Section 3 "Cargo information to be furnished before loading"



# Merchant Shipping (Safety)(Carriage of Cargo) Regulation (Cap. 369AV), Section 3

### Sub-section (1):

A master or owner of a ship, or person assigned...to take charge of loading cargoes on the ship shall not accept for carriage...any cargo unless the shipper of the cargo has, before the cargo is accepted, furnished such master, owner or person with information on the cargo ....

### Sub-section (3):

- Information on cargoes referred to in sub-section (1) shall be-
  - (b) (ii) the gross mass of the cargo or, where the cargo is carried in cargo units; the gross mass of such cargo units



### • **Shipper**

in relation to a cargo, means a person named in a bill of lading, sea waybill or an equivalent multimodal transport document as the shipper of the cargo and/or who (or in whose name or on whose behalf) has concluded a contract of carriage with a shipping company;



# Guideline to assist compliance to the new requirement

• Making reference to the IMO's guideline, Hong Kong Marine Department issued a "Guidelines on the Verification of Gross Mass of a Container with Cargo Packed in Hong Kong" to assist the industry to comply with the new requirement. The guideline is available at the website of Marine Department.





#### 香港特別行政區政府海事處 MARINE DEPARTMENT

#### THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

#### Guidelines on the Verification of Gross Mass of a Container with Cargo Packed in Hong Kong

#### Part I Preliminary

#### 1. Regulatory Organization

Marine Department of the Government of the HKSAR ("MD") is the authority regulates the container mass verification in Hong Kong. The regulatory work includes the following:-

- (i) to establish legislation in respect of captioned SOLAS requirement,
- (ii) to enforce the legislation,
- to register shippers<sup>1</sup> operating with submitted container mass verification procedures,
- (iv) to maintain a register of registered shippers,
- (v) to maintain a list of approved weighing scales,
- (vi) to carry out random audit inspection.

#### Part II Verification of Container Mass

#### 2. Core Principles

- 2.1 Shipper is responsible to obtain and record the verified gross mass of packed container in documentary format.
- 2.2 In case any container comprises more than one shipper's cargo, the entity consolidates, seals and delivers the container to the carrier shall be

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1



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Support means a legal entity or person named on the bill of lading or sea waybill or equivalent multimodal transport document (e.g. "through" bill of lading) as shipper and/or who (or in whose name or on whose behalf) a contract of carriage has been concluded with a carrier.

# Aim of new requirement

### 1) Reduce loss of containers





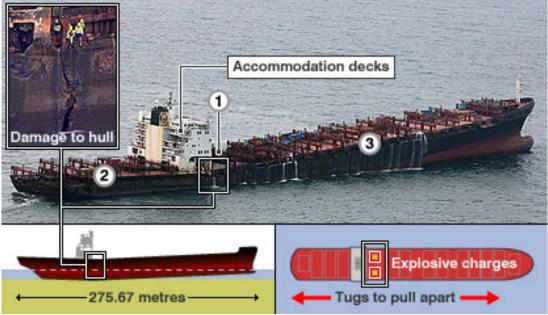


### 2) Improve safety of work personnel, vessel and equipment











## **Applicability**

• The guideline ("Guidelines on Verification of Gross Mass of a Container with Cargo Packed in Hong Kong") apply to all containers to which the CSC (Convention of Safety Containers) applies, and which are to be stowed onto a ship to be subject to SOLAS Chapter VI.



# **Core principle**

- Shipper is responsible to obtain and record the verified gross mass of packed container in documentary format.
- Shipper shall submit the shipping document with verified gross mass to the Carrier and the Terminal (via carrier) for the purpose of formulation of stowage plan at the earliest.



# Methods to verify the gross mass of packed containers

### Method 1:

Direct weighing

Method 2:

Accumulation of weights



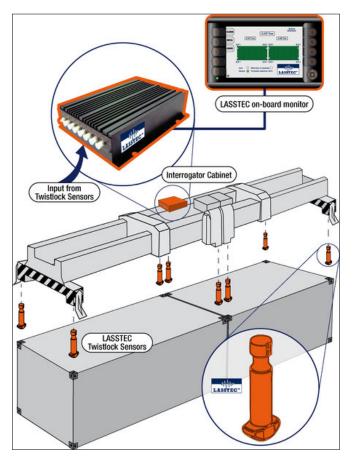
# Method 1

• Weighing the packed container with various weighing facilities.













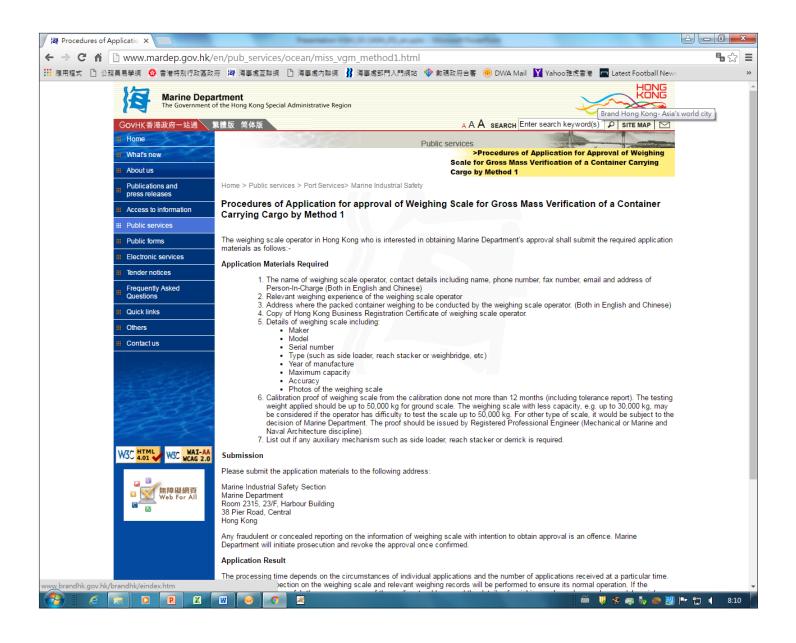


The weighing facilities approved by Marine Department have to be used. The list of approved weighing facilities is available at the website of Marine Department.

Report of the annual calibration has to be submitted to Marine Department.

(The procedure to apply for approved weighing facility is available in the website of Marine Department.)





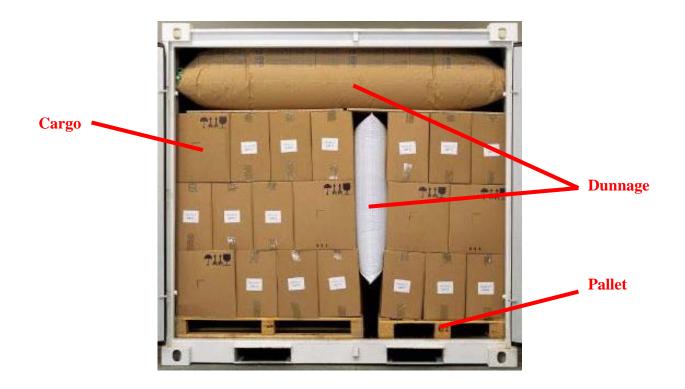


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Name and Signature of weighing equipment operating s 秤重校地排作員城名,最著及公司董章	taff and company stamp



### Method 2

• Basing on the procedure approved by Marine Department, weighing all packages and cargo items, including pallets, dunnage and other securing material to be packed in the container and adding the tare mass of the container to obtain the sum of all single masses.









#### Container Mass Calculation Sheet (Method 2)

Page\_1\_of\_1\_

Carrier (Shipping Line):	Space Container Line Limited	Container No.:	SPCL104701 0
Name of vessel:	Apollo 13	Voyage No.:	APO 025
Container type:	20-ft 40-ft / 46-ft / flat rack / ISO tanker	Delivery date:	04.07.2016

No.	Cargo	Quantity	Unit mass (kg)	Sub-total (kg)	Remark
1	Toy truck	1000	2	2000	
2	Toy train	1000	1.5	1500	/ \
3	Skateboard	100	5	500	
4	Carton paper	100 shts	2	200	
5	Polythene sheet	200 yds		3	1
6	Pallet	20	10	200	
7	Securing material	-/-		<b>)</b> -	
8	Cargo from "Forwarder A"	1 lot		2000	Provided by "Forwarder A"
9					
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18					
19	Tare mass of container			2300	
		(Verified	Total Gross Mass)	8703	

No. of Seal:	SPSL306806		
Completed a		Checked & signed by :	Chan Tai Man / Chu
Date :	03.07.2016	Date :	03.07.2016



### **Declaration**

Shipper shall declare the verified gross mass in the shipping document. The declaration may be submitted as

- 1. a part of the shipping instruction; or
- 2. an independent proof document.

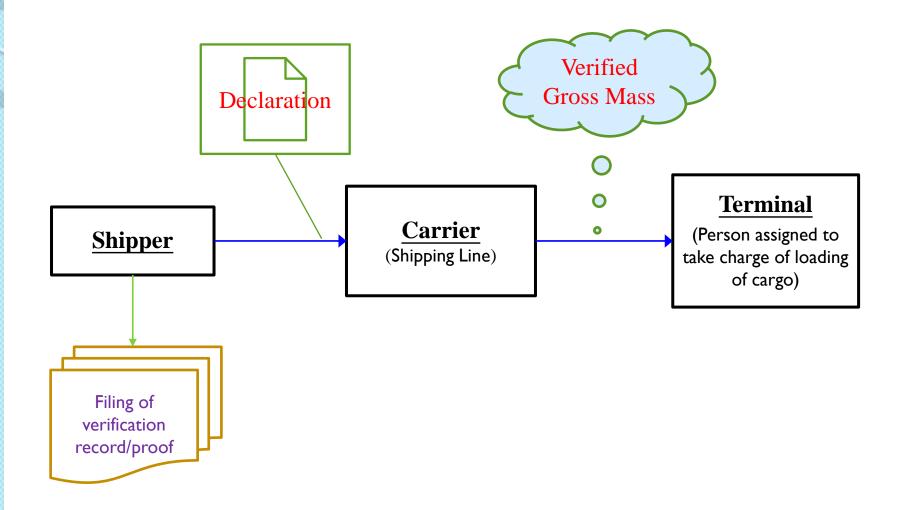
The declaration shall be signed by the shipper's authorized person. The signature may be in the form of electronic.



### **Transmission of Information**

- Shipper shall submit the shipping document with verified gross mass used in the ship stowage plan sufficiently in advance to the carrier and the terminal (via carrier) by means of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) or Electronic Data Processing (EDP) transmission or paper copy for the purpose of formulation of stowage plan.
- When the packed container reaches the terminal's facilities, carrier shall inform the terminal the verified gross mass figure.
- If the shipper cannot provide the verified gross mass information upon a container's arrival at the terminal, that container shall not be loaded onboard until verification of container mass is completed.







### **Transshipment containers**

• Transshipment container with declared verified gross mass does not require to re-verify its mass through weighing and re-declare subsequently.



### **Deviation in Gross Mass Figures**

•  $VGM \le 10 MT : +/- 0.5 MT$ 

VGM > 10 MT : +/-5%

• The VGM figures obtained from MD's approved weighing equipment prevails.



## Registration of Method 2 user

			-	For official use only 北陽市本真集 Approval: Yes / No Registration No:
		香港特別行政區 MARINE DEPA		
	THE GOVERNMENT O	F THE HONG KONG	SPECIAL ADMINIST	KATIVE REGION
	Application of Shipper's Regi			ntainer Carrying Cargo
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Shipper provides

- 1. Business Registration Certificate (copy)
- 2. The procedure of Method 2 application (for vetting)



#### ABCDE Company Limited

#### Container Mass Verification by calculation

#### 1.0 Purpose

This document describes the process to verify the gross mass of a packed container via calculation (or "Method 2" as named in IMO's guideline).

#### 2.0 Responsibility

Operation Team is responsible to stuff of a container with cargo which is intended to be shipped overseas and obtain the verified gross mass of the container after packed.

#### 3.0 Procedure

- 3.1 Operation staff obtains the weight of
  - each cargo item to be packed in the container,
  - packing material used (quantity x unit mass),
  - packaging material used (quantity x unit mass),
  - iv) securing material used (quantity x unit mass), and
  - v) dunnage used (quantity x unit mass).
- 3.2 Operation staff enters above information in the Container Weight Calculation Sheet.
- 3.3 Operation staff enters the tare weight of the container in the Container Weight Calculation Sheet.
- 3.4 Operation staff sums up all individual weight figures to obtain the gross mass of the packed container which will be used as the Verified Gross Mass of the container for declaration.
- 3.5 Responsible operation staff to sign on the calculation sheet and file as record.

#### 4.0 Reference

- 4.1 "Guidelines on the Verification of Gross Mass of a Container with Cargo Packed in Hong Kong" issued by Marine Department.
- 4.2 Guidance document "Verification of Gross Mass of a Container Carrying Cargo by Method 2" issued by Marine Department.

#### 5.0 Weighing Equipment

Name	Weighing range
Weighing scale (electronic) Brand: XYZ	1000 kg
Weighing scale (mechanical) Brand: Guangzhou	200 kg

(Company Stamp)

Document No.: ABC-01



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6	Pallet	20	10	200	
7	Securing material	-/-		<b>)</b> -	
8	Cargo from "Forwarder A"	1 lot		2000	Provided by "Forwarder A"
9					
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4	Carton paper	100 shts	2.	200	
5	Polythene sheet	200 yds		3	P
6	Pallet	20	10	200	
7	Securing material	-/-		<b>y</b> -	
8	Cargo from "Forwarder A"	1 lot		2000	Provided by "Forwarder A"
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18					
19	Tare mass of container			2300	
		(Verified	Total Gross Mass)	8703	



• If the submission is found in order, MD shall issue a confirmation of registration together with the registration number to the shipper.

• MD has the right to inspect and witness shipper's conduct of the procedure before granting the registration.



### • Scenario 1:

Shipper - Hong Kong registered company

Container - Packed and sealed in Hong Kong

Method 2 - Procedure approved by MD

Registration - Yes

Declaration - Required format of Hong Kong



• Scenario 2:

(Land transport)

Shipper - Hong Kong registered company

Container - Packed and sealed in Mainland China

Method 2 - Adhere to the requirement of Mainland

China

Registration - Yes

Declaration - Required format of Hong Kong



• Scenario 3:

(Land transport)

Shipper - Non-HK registered company

Container - Packed and sealed in Mainland China

Method 2 - Adhere to the requirement of Mainland

China

Registration - No

Declaration - Required format of Mainland China



### • Scenario 4:

Shipper - Non-HK registered company

Container - Packed and sealed in Hong Kong

Method 2 - Procedure approved by MD

Registration - Yes

Declaration - Requirement format of Hong Kong



## **Content of Declaration**

- Shipper's declaration: the gross mass of the packed container declared in the shipping document was obtained in accordance with Method 1 stipulated in SOLAS Chapter VI Regulation 2.
- Shipper's declaration: the gross mass of packed container declared in the shipping document was obtained in accordance with Method 2 stipulated in SOLAS Chapter VI Regulation 2. The procedure of this method has been approved or recognized by MD with registration number "GMV012345678".



## **Signing of Declaration**

- Shipper's authorized
  - staff
  - representative (agent)

 Keeping of authorization document for inspection



OOCL Logistics (Australia) Pty Ltd Level 3, 107 Mount Street, North Sydney	Bit. No. (for imports)  Booking No. (for exports)	Parlamone No.
NSW 2080, Australia Tel: (02) 89128888 Fac: (02) 89128800	Pamadi:	
From:		
Customer's Company Name	2	
C	ONTAINER WEIGHT PARTICULA	RS
Container Number:		
CARGO WEIGHT		KGs
CONTAINER WEIGHT		KGs
Total Gross Weight		KGs
		-
Declared by:(Pri	nt Name) Signature:	

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CONTAI	NER WEIGI	HT DE	CLARATION (	CWD)		
CONTAINER	NUMBER	Ma	ndetory			
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CONSIGNOR	/ RECEIVER (1)	Na	me. Address & Phone	Number Mandator	y for Responsible En	lity (1).
Status:	Full	Empty		ISO Code		
Cargo Type:	General	Hazard	Oversize	Reefer		
Container Typ	99: 20ft	40ft	46ft	Flat Rack	ISO Tanker	
Commodity:		Mandate	ary.			
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### 集裝箱重量聲明書

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### CONTAINER MASS DECLARATION

Name of Vess	el le		Voyage No.		
Shipper	Name, address & phone number:		- Congress		
Item No.	Container	No.	Verified Gross Mass, VGM (kgs)	_	
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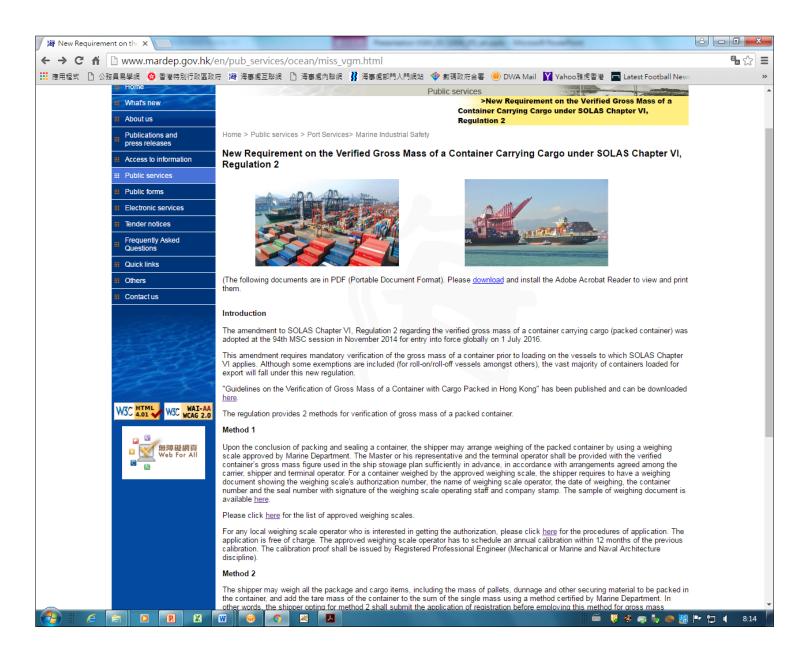


## Supervision of the execution of guideline

Marine Department may exercise the power to

- (1) Enter the companies to check the documents or records confirming their compliance with either Method 1 or Method 2; and
- (2) Weigh packed container by making use of weighing equipment if necessary.









### 香港特別行政區政府海事處 MARINE DEPARTMENT

#### THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

### Verification of Gross Mass of a Container Carrying Cargo by Method 2

Prior to performing verification of gross mass of a container carrying cargo by Method 2, please ensure the submission of the relevant verification method to Marine Department. Such a method can only be adopted after receiving the letter of registration confirmation issued by this department.

#### 1. Acquiring the Masses of the Cargoes to be Loaded into the Container

The types of cargoes carried by containers are extensive. Generally they can be divided into two main categories as shown below.

#### 1.1 Homogenous Cargoes

Basically the shapes and masses of individual homogenous items are identical. For instance, the mass of every packed television set is 20 kg. If the shipper intends to load 100 numbers of television sets to a container, the gross mass of cargoes should be 20 kg x 100 numbers, which gives 2,000 kg.

The shipper can rely on the mass information provided by the manufacturer or determine by weighing to obtain the masses of individual items.

#### 1.2 Irregular Cargoes

The common irregular cargoes include bulk commodities and liquids. Weighing the irregular cargoes by adopting Method 2 is almost the same as the practice for homogenous cargoes. However the masses of individual items would not be identical due to the irregular shape of those cargoes. The shipper shall therefore have to weigh every item or make use of the filling machine with mass measuring device. It is more appropriate to use Method 1 for such kind of cargoes (i.e. weighing the packed container by authorized weighing scale).

Version No.: 003 Rev:2016/04



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# Thank you



# Merchant Shipping (Safety)(Carriage of Cargoes) Regulations (Cap.369AV)

### Section 3A (Amendment)

New Requirements:



- 1. <u>Specified Person</u> must verify the gross mass of the container (two methods);
- 2. <u>Specified Person</u> must ensure verify gross mass is stated in the shipping document;
- 3. <u>Ship Master</u> and <u>terminal operator</u> must not load a container on board without obtaining verified gross mass.



# New Requirement 1: Verifying the gross mass of container

### Two methods:

- 1. Weighing the whole container using an <u>accepted</u> weighing equipment; or
- 2. Adding the weights of cargoes and others using an approved method.

With both above methods, the following authorities could "accept" and "approve":

- 1. competent authority of the place at which the packing of the container was completed; or
- 2. Hong Kong Marine Department





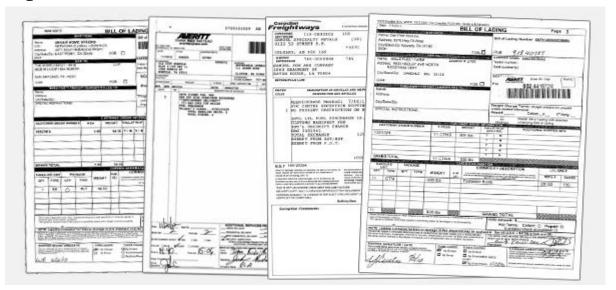


### New Requirement 2:

## Stating the verified gross mass in shipping document

Requirements for shipping document:

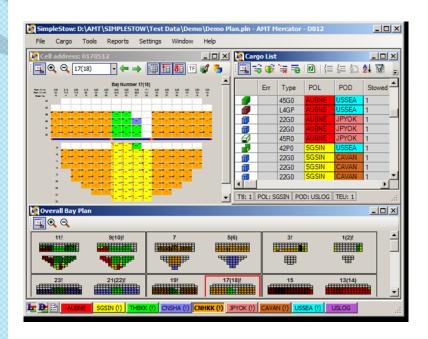
- 1. Signed by the specified person (or someone authorized by him); and
- 2. deliver a copy <u>in advance</u> to the master of the ship or the master's representative and the terminal operator for the preparation of the ship's stowage plan.





## New Requirement 3:

## No container to be loaded on board without verified gross mass



Conditions for loading:

- 1. Verified gross mass is stated in the shipping document; or
- 2. Ship Master and terminal operator obtain verified gross mass (by other means).



## Enforcement of the new legislation requirements

### Hong Kong Marine Department:

- 1. To specify the specifications, standards or additional requirements by notice published in the Gazette. (e.g. details for "acceptance" and "approval")
- 2. To inspect company for compliances;
- 3. To check container weight when deemed necessary.

### Offence:

Same offence and penalty as the existing legislation







# Thank You

