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MARINE DEPARTMENT

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To: All Masters, Ship Security Officers, Company Security Officers of Hong Kong registered ships, Hong Kong Shipowners, Hong Kong Ship Managers and Hong Kong Ship Operators

Hong Kong Marine Department LRIT issue Circular No. 1/2011

This Advisory draws the attention of the concerned parties to the Long-Range Identification and Tracking System (LRIT) conformance test during change of flag or register new construction to the Hong Kong Register.

After completion of LRIT conformance test, the ship owner / manager are reminded that they should forward a copy of the LRIT Conformance Test Report to the Marine Department (MD) for record keeping and database entry via sqa@mardep.gov.hk. Shipowner should also inform MD when there are changes to the shipboard LRIT equipment or Inmarsat Mobile Number (IMN), as such changes could cause failure to the LRIT reception.

When the vessel / new construction is in a location where it is not feasible to carry out the LRIT conformance test, ship owner / manager must make application to MD for a dispensation. After satisfying the criteria MD will issue a one-month dispensation for carrying out the LRIT conforming test with the following conditions:

1. The duty officer on board should record the ship position data every 6 hours starting from 0000H and onward.
2. The master of the vessel should then send the LRIT data, such as, vessel name, call sign, MMSI Number, IMN Number for LRIT and ship position to the DPA of the vessel for every 6 hours starting from 0000H and onward.
3. The ship owner must endeavor to conduct the LRIT conformance test at sea as soon as possible after departure.

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When a ship is undergoing repair in dry-dock or laid up for a long period which may reduce the frequency or temporarily stop the LRIT transmission, the Master of the ship must notify the China LRIT National Data Centre (facsimile number: 86 10 65299737 / 86 21 58775890*751) and carbon copy to MD beforehand stating the reason and the period. The Application Form for temporary suspension / resuming LRIT transmission can be downloaded from the following path: http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub_services/pdf/lrit_form.doc .

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Y.K. LI', with a stylized flourish at the end.

(Y.K. LI)

Senior Surveyor/Security & Quality Assurance Section
for Director of Marine