



香 港 商 船 資 訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Amendments to the International Code of Safety for High Speed Craft, HSC Code

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate IMO resolutions MSC.536(107) and MSC.537(107) and to advise the parties concerned of the amendments to Chapter 7 and Annex (Certificates) of the International Code of Safety for High Speed Craft, 1994 HSC Code and 2000 HSC Code which will enter into force on 1 January 2026.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at its 107th session adopted the resolutions MSC.536(107) and MSC.537(107) on 8 June 2023 to amend the HSC Codes (1994 and 2000) to introduce the prohibition of use or storage of fire-fighting foams containing PFOS (perfluorooctane sulfonic acid) and revise certificate (record of equipment) on types of immersion suits. These amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2026.
2. The amendments to HSC Codes include the requirements for substances containing PFOS to be delivered to an appropriate shore-based reception facility when removed from the craft. The prohibition applies to both fixed and portable fire extinguishing systems containing PFOS and the amendments will be applicable to new and existing ships no later than the date of the first survey on or after 1 January 2026.
3. The details of IMO resolutions MSC.536(107) and MSC.537(107) can be found on the website of Marine Department (<https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>) as attachment to this Note.

4. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, ship masters, classification societies and shipbuilders of Hong Kong registered ships are required to take note of these amendments and act accordingly.

Marine Department
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