



## 香港商船資訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

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**Unauthorized Modification of Engine Room Piping**

*To : Shipowners, Masters, Agents and Classification Societies*

***Summary***

The purpose of this Merchant Shipping Information Note is to remind Shipowners, Ship Managers and Masters of their responsibilities and the dangers of unauthorized structural modifications to their vessels.

1. There have been two recent incidents of unauthorized structural alterations made to the bilge water and sludge piping systems. As a result, these vessels were detained under port State control inspections for the violation of Annex I of the MARPOL Convention.
2. Shipowners, Ship Managers and Masters of Hong Kong registered ships are reminded of their responsibilities under the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Ordinances to operate and maintain their ships in accordance with international convention requirements. No material changes should be made to a ship unless prior approval is obtained from the Certifying Authority. Failure to do so may result in port State detention and prosecution.

Marine Department  
Shipping Division

2 May 2000