Guidelines on Annual Testing of Voyage Data Recorders (VDR) and Simplified Voyage Data Recorders (S-VDR)

To: Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters, Equipment Manufacturers and Classification Societies

Summary

This Note promulgates Guidelines on annual testing of voyage data recorders (VDR) and simplified voyage data recorders (S-VDR) approved by the Maritime Safety Committee, at its 82nd session in December 2006.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee of IMO at its 82nd session in December 2006 approved the IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1222, which contains the Guidelines on annual testing of voyage data recorders (VDR) and simplified voyage data recorders (S-VDR).

2. This Note is to bring to the attention of parties concerned that the VDR or S-VDR, required to be fitted on board the ship by SOLAS regulation V/20, should be subject to an annual performance test. The purpose of the Guidelines is to provide a standard method of testing the performance of VDR and S-VDR.

3. The IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1222 and two IMO resolutions MSC.163(78) and A.861(20) mentioned in the said circular can be found as attachments to this Note on the Marine Department website (http://www.mardep.gov.hk). Parties concerned are recommended to follow these guidelines when VDR and S-VDR are being tested annually.

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12 February 2007