New format of Hong Kong Licences

To: Shipowners, Ship Masters, Agents and Seafarers’ Unions

Summary

The purpose of this information note is to inform shipowners, ship masters, agents and seafarers’ unions that digitised authorization signature and digitised photograph are used in Hong Kong licences.

1. Hong Kong licences are issued in compliance with STCW Regulation I/10 to holders of non-Hong Kong certificate of competency for recognition of their certificates. Following to the introduction of on-line application for Hong Kong licences through internet (HKMSIN no. 10/2011 refers), digitised authorization signature and digitised photograph are now used in the Hong Kong licences and these digitised images are printed by computer system directly on the licence paper.

2. For those existing Hong Kong licences with photograph in hard copy or personally signed by authorized officers, they will remain valid until the date of expiry as stated on the licences.

3. Unlike the processing of Hong Kong licences, digitised signature and digitised photograph are not used on Hong Kong certificate of competency issued under the provisions of Article VI of the STCW Convention and the format of Hong Kong certificate of competency remains unchanged.

4. Any enquiries relating to this Note should be made to the Senior Surveyor of the Seafarers’ Certification Section (telephone no.: (852) 2852 4368, fax no.: (852) 2541 6754, e-mail address: sscrt@mardep.gov.hk).

Marine Department
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