Inmarsat Ship Earth Station Barring Procedures

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the Inmarsat Ship Earth Station Barring Procedures. This Note supersedes Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Notice No. 5/1999.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee of the IMO, at its 70th session in December 1998, approved the circular MSC/Circ.883 on “Maritime safety and Inmarsat ship earth station barring procedures”.

2. Since increasing number of Inmarsat Ship Earth Station (SES) owners have failed their obligation to pay for the services provided in respect of chargeable communications emanating from SESs, Inmarsat advises the IMO that respective terminals may be barred from using the applicable satellite services provided by Inmarsat under such conditions.

3. The circular MSC/Circ.883 can be found on the webpage of Marine Department (http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html) as an attachment to this Note.

4. Classification Societies are requested to instruct their surveyors to confirm the operational status of Inmarsat terminals appearing on Safety Radio Certificates when undertaking the surveys for the issue of Safety Radio Certificates. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators and ship masters are advised that their ships may be detained under Port State Control due to the non-availability of the satellite terminal(s) necessary for them to perform the required communication services.

5. This Note supersedes Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Notice No. 5/1999.

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division

18 September 2012