



香 港 商 船 資 訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Guidelines for Ships operating in Arctic Ice-covered Waters

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the Guidelines for Ships operating in Arctic Ice-covered Waters. This Note supersedes Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 12/2003.

1. The Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its 48th session in October 2002 and the Maritime Safety Committee of the IMO, at its 76th session in December 2002, approved the “Guidelines for ships operating in Arctic ice-covered waters” as annexed to IMO circular MSC/Circ.1056 – MEPC/Circ.399.
2. The guidelines aim to ensure safe navigation of ships and the prevention of pollution in Arctic ice-covered waters by addressing additional provisions deemed necessary for consideration beyond existing requirements of the SOLAS Convention. They cover design, outfitting of relevant ships, including crewing by adequate numbers of suitably trained personnel.
3. The circular MSC/Circ.1056–MEPC/Circ.399 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. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, ship masters, classification societies and shipbuilders are recommended to take into account of the guidelines when operating their ships in Arctic ice-covered waters.
5. This Note supersedes Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 12/2003.

Marine Department
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