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HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Guidance on the Use of the UN/LOCODE in the Destination Field in AIS Messages

To : *Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters and Officers*

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the Guidance on the Use of the UN/LOCODE in the Destination Field in AIS Messages. This Note supersedes Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 34/2005.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee of the IMO, at its 79th session in December 2004, approved the “Guidance on the use of the UN/LOCODE in the destination field in AIS messages” as annexed to IMO circular SN/Circ.244.
2. The guidance attempts to provide consistent spelling for the vessel’s port of destination, which is one of the fields manually inserted on board as part of the AIS signal. Instead of entering the port by name, it recommends the use of the UN “Code for Ports and Other Locations”.
3. The circular SN/Circ.244 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 and officers are reminded to observe the guidance.
5. This Note supersedes Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 34/2005.

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