Unified Interpretation of the Application of Regulations Governed by the Building Contract Date, the Keel Laying Date and the Delivery Date for the Requirements of the SOLAS and MARPOL Conventions

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the unified interpretation of the application of regulations governed by the building contract date, keel laying date and the delivery date for the requirements of the SOLAS and MARPOL Conventions.

1. The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) and the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), at their 65th and 92nd sessions in May and June 2013 respectively, approved the unified interpretation of the application of regulations governed by the building contract date, the keel laying date and the delivery date for the requirements of the SOLAS and MARPOL Conventions.

2. The details of this unified interpretation as annexed to IMO circular MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.8 can be found in the attachment to this Note on the website of Marine Department (http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html).

3. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, ship masters, classification societies and shipbuilders of Hong Kong registered ships are required to use this unified interpretation as guidance for application of the relevant requirements of the SOLAS and MARPOL Conventions.

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