IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner Identification Number Scheme

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

Summary

This Note provides the updated information on the SOLAS requirements regarding company and registered owner identification numbers. This Note supersedes Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 15/2008.

1. In May 2005, IMO adopted resolution MSC.194(80) which amends:

   (a) SOLAS XI-1/3-1 to the effect that the company identification number shall be inserted on the interim and full term Document of Compliance (DOC), Safety Management Certificate (SMC), and International Ship Security Certificate (ISSC) when these certificates are issued or renewed on or after 1 January 2009; and

   (b) SOLAS XI-1/5 to the effect that the company and registered owner identification numbers shall be inserted on the continuous synopsis record (CSR) when such document is issued or updated on or after 1 January 2009.

2. IMO also adopted resolutions MSC.195(80) and MSC.196(80) to amend the format of interim and full term DOC, SMC and ISSC to include the company identification number on the certificates.

3. IMO Circular Letter No. 2554/Rev.3 was also issued on 4 March 2014 providing guidelines on how to apply for the company and registered owner identification numbers from IHS Maritime (formerly known as IHS Fairplay (IHS-F) and Lloyd’s Register-Fairplay (LRF)).
4. It is noted that many management companies and registered owners of Hong Kong ships have already obtained their identification numbers. For those who have not been assigned with the required numbers, they should follow the guidelines in the Circular Letter No. 2554/Rev.3 and directly contact IHS Maritime to obtain such numbers.

5. Recognized Organizations are requested to follow the SOLAS requirements in paragraphs 1(a) and 2 above when issuing or renewing the concerned certificates for Hong Kong registered ships after obtaining the required identification numbers from IHS Maritime or the management companies of the ships.

6. This Department has implemented SOLAS requirements in paragraph 1(b) above. Applications for CSR are required to provide with the company and registered owner identification numbers. The CSR thus issued will be marked with those numbers.

7. IMO resolutions MSC.194(80), MSC.195(80) and MSC.196(80) and IMO Circular Letter No. 2554/Rev.3 can be found on the website of the Marine Department (http://www.mardep.gov.hk) as an attachment to this Note. Owners, managers, operators and masters of Hong Kong registered ships and Recognized Organizations are required to act accordingly.

Marine Department
Shipping Division

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