Unified Interpretations relating to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the unified interpretations relating to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966 in relation to the regulation 13, 20 and 27(13)(e) regarding “the position of hatchways, doorways and ventilators”, “air pipes” and “unprotected openings for the effective operation of the ship” respectively.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), at its 96th session in May 2016 approved a circular MSC.1/Circ.1534 on unified interpretations relating to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966 in relation to the regulation 13, 20 and 27(13)(e), respectively, regarding “the position of hatchways, doorways and ventilators”, “air pipes” and “unprotected openings for effective operation of the ship”, with a view to facilitating global and consistent implementation of the requirements of the 1966 Load Lines Convention.

2. The IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1534 as an attachment to this Note can be found on the webpage of Marine Department (http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html).

3. Shipowners, ship managers, masters, classification societies and shipbuilders of Hong Kong registered ships are required to apply the unified interpretations.

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