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HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Unified Interpretations of the 2008 IS Code

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the unified interpretations of the 2008 IS Code, in order to facilitate global and consistent implementation of the 2008 IS Code's requirements relating to the definition of the term "lightship", severe wind and rolling criterion (weather criterion) and assumptions for calculating loading conditions.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), at its 96th session in May 2016, approved the unified interpretations of the 2008 IS Code, in order to facilitate global and consistent implementation of the requirements of the 2008 IS Code incorporating paragraph 2.23 of the Introduction concerning the extinguishing mediums of the fixed firefighting system to be included in the determination of the lightship condition; paragraph 2.3 of Part A – Mandatory Criteria relating to severe wind and rolling criteria; and paragraph 3.4.2 of Part B – Recommendation for Certain Types of Ships and Additional Guidelines in relation to the application of the assumption for calculating loading conditions.
2. The details of the unified interpretations as annexed to IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1537 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, masters, classification societies and shipbuilders of Hong Kong registered ships should apply the unified interpretations.

Marine Department
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