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HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Unified Interpretations of Chapters 5, 6 and 9 of the FSS 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 chapters 5, 6 and 9 of the FSS Code, with a view to providing more specific guidance on the fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems and fixed fire detection and fire alarm systems, foam-generating capacity of fixed foam fire-extinguishing systems and an additional indicating unit in the cargo control rooms.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), at its 96th session in May 2016, approved the unified interpretations of chapters 5, 6 and 9 of the FSS Code, with a view to providing more specific guidance on the requirements of the FSS Code, incorporating paragraph 2.2.1.7 of chapter 5 relating to the number of setting points of control for fixed gas fire-extinguishing systems; paragraphs 3.2.1.2 and 3.3.1.2 of chapter 6, as amended by resolution MSC.327(90), for the foam-generating capacity of fixed foam fire-extinguishing systems; and paragraph 2.5.1.3 of chapter 9, as amended by resolution MSC.339(91), regarding the need for fitting an additional indicating unit in a space in which a cargo control console is installed (e.g. ship's office, machinery control room).
2. The details of the unified interpretations as annexed to IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1528 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.

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