Amendments to the International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code and the Revised Recommendation on Testing of Life-Saving Appliances (Resolution MSC. 81(70), as amended)

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate IMO resolutions MSC. 425(98) and MSC. 427(98) to advise the parties concerned of the amendments to the International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code (‘the LSA Code’) and the associated amendments to the Revised recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances (the ‘Revised Recommendation’) by virtue of resolution MSC. 81(70). The amendments to the LSA Code are expected to enter into force on 1 January 2020.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), at its 98th session, adopted the Resolutions MSC. 425(98) and MSC. 427(98) on 15 June 2017 to amend the International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code (‘the LSA Code’) and the associated amendments to the Revised recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances (the ‘Revised Recommendation’) by virtue of Resolution MSC. 81(70). The amendments to the LSA Code shall enter into force on 1 January 2020.

2. Resolution MSC. 425(98) introduces amendments to paragraphs 6.1.1.5 and 6.1.1.6 (Launching and embarkation appliances) of the LSA Code which provides consistency on the application of the factory static proof load test for launching appliances, including their structural members and winches to withstand their maximum working load assigned.

3. In view of the above-mentioned change in Chapter 6 of the amended LSA Code and the Revised Recommendation in Resolution MSC. 81(70) with regard to winches and winch brakes, Resolution MSC. 427(98) is therefore modified accordingly. As such, the relevant provisions in paragraph 8.1.1 of part 1 of the annex to Resolution MSC. 81(70) are amended to align with the associated amendments to the LSA Code as a result of the aforesaid Resolution MSC. 425(98).
4. The details of amendments as annexed to the said IMO resolutions MSC. 425(98) and MSC. 427(98) can be found on the website of Marine Department (http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html) as attachments to this Note.

5. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters, classification societies and shipbuilders of Hong Kong registered ships are reminded to apply the above amendments when testing life-saving appliances.

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