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HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate IMO resolution MSC. 474(102) and to advise the parties concerned of the amendments to Chapter II-1 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, as amended which will enter into force on 1 January 2024.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at its 102nd session adopted the resolution MSC. 474(102) on 11 November 2020 to amend the SOLAS. The amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2024. However, the amendment to SOLAS regulation II-1/12 may be implemented early on a voluntary basis prior to the entry-into-force date (1 January 2024).

2. Significant amendments to Chapter II-1 of SOLAS are exhibited as follow, amongst others: -

Resolution	Chapter/Part/Reg.	Matters of concern
MSC. 474(102)	II-1/A/1.3	Revision of the application date of the amendments to this Chapter
MSC. 474(102)	II-1/A-1/3-8	Amendments to the requirements of towing and mooring equipment
MSC. 474(102)	II-1/B-1/7-2, B-2/12,13,15,16,17 and 17-1	Amendments to the calculation of damage stability, requirements for subdivision, watertight and weathertight integrity

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MSC. 474(102)	II-1/B-4/19,21 and 22	Amendments to certain requirements for stability management such as damage control information, operation and inspection of watertight doors, prevention and control of water ingress
MSC. 474(102)	II-1/B-4/22,23 and D/42	Minor editorial amendments in various paragraphs due to re-numbering

3. The Revised Explanatory Notes to the SOLAS Chapter II-1 was consolidated and adopted by IMO as resolution MSC. 429(98)/Rev.2. The consolidated Revised Explanatory Notes should be utilized when applied the SOLAS Chapter II-1.

4. The details of IMO resolution MSC. 474(102) with the pertinent IMO circular MSC.8/Circ.1 and MSC. 429(98)/Rev.2 can be found on the website of Marine Department (http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html) as attachment to this Note.

5. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters, classification societies and shipbuilders of Hong Kong registered ships are required to take note of these amendments and act accordingly.

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