Coming into Force of Amended Hong Kong Legislation Implementing SOLAS Chapter II-1, II-2, III and XI-1 Requirements

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to draw the attention of the parties concerned to five (5) pieces of amended Hong Kong legislation, which implements the latest technical requirements in relation to (i) the construction and survey of ships, (ii) the fire safety requirements of ships and (iii) the life-saving appliances and arrangement requirements of ships stipulated in Chapter II-1, II-2, III and XI-1 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). These legislative amendments will come into force on 15 October 2021.

1. To implement the latest requirements of SOLAS adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the following subsidiary regulations have been made under the Merchant Shipping (Safety) Ordinance (Cap. 369) —

   (1) Merchant Shipping (Safety) (Cargo Ship Construction and Survey) (Ships Built Before 1 September 1984) (Amendment) Regulation 2021 (Cap. 369R);
   (2) Merchant Shipping (Safety) (Cargo Ship Construction and Survey) (Ships Built On or After 1 September 1984) (Amendment) Regulation 2021 (Cap. 369S);
   (3) Merchant Shipping (Safety) (Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements, Musters and Training) (Amendment) Regulation 2021 (Cap. 369AY);
   (4) Merchant Shipping (Safety) (Construction and Survey) (Amendment) Regulation 2021 (Cap. 369BD); and
   (5) Merchant Shipping (Safety) (Fire-fighting Appliances and Fire Protection) (Amendment) Regulation 2021 (Cap. 369BE).

The date of coming into force for all above five regulations will be on 15 October 2021.
2. Copies of the above-mentioned regulations can be found in the website of Marine Department (https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html) as Annexes 1 to 5.

3. Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters, Classification Societies and Shipbuilders are required to take note and comply with the requirements of these amended regulations.

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Multi-lateral Policy Division  
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