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HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Adoption of the Revised Performance Standards for Water Level Detectors on Ships subject to SOLAS Reg.II-1/25, II-1/25-1 and XII/12

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the Revised Performance Standards for water level detectors on ships subject to SOLAS Regulations II-1/25, II-1/25-1 and XII/12 and the appended Guidelines on installation and testing of water level detection systems on ships subject to SOLAS regulations II-1/25, II-1/25-1 and XII/12 (Resolution MSC.188(79)/Rev.2). This Note supersedes the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 34/2022 issued on 2 August 2022.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), at its 107th session in June 2023, adopted the “Revised Performance Standards for water level detectors on ships subject to SOLAS Regulations II-1/25, II-1/25-1 and XII/12” and the appended Guidelines on installation and testing of water level detection systems on ships subject to SOLAS Regulations II-1/25, II-1/25-1 and XII/12 as annexed to IMO Resolution MSC.188(79)/Rev.2.

2. The aim of the revision is to provide technical functional requirements for water level detection and alarm arrangements installed in:

- (a) bulk carriers for compliance with SOLAS regulation XII/12;
- (b) single hold cargo ships other than bulk carriers for compliance with SOLAS regulation II-1/25; and
- (c) multiple hold cargo ships other than bulk carriers and tankers for compliance with SOLAS regulation II-1/25-1.

These standards also provide technical functional requirements for bilge alarms used as water level detectors in multiple hold cargo ships for compliance with SOLAS regulation II-1/25-1.

3. The resolution MSC.188(79)/Rev.2, revokes MSC.188(79)/Rev.1, can be found on the website of Marine Department (<https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>) as attachment to this Note.

4. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, ship masters, classification societies and shipbuilders of Hong Kong registered ships are advised that water level detectors shall:

- (i) conform to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to resolution MSC.188(79)/Rev.2 if the detectors are installed on:
 - (a) new ships for which the building contract is placed on or after 1 January 2024, or in the absence of the contract, the keel of which is laid or which are at a similar stage of construction on or after 1 January 2024; or
 - (b) ships other than those ships prescribed in (a), with a contractual delivery date for the equipment to the ship on or after 1 January 2024, or in the absence of a contractual delivery date to the ship, actually delivered to the ship on or after 1 January 2024; or
- (ii) conform to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to resolution MSC.188(79) if the detectors are installed on ships other than those prescribed in (i) above.

5. The Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 34/2022 issued on 2 August 2022 is hereby superseded.

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division

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