



## 香 港 商 船 資 訊

## HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

**Guidelines for Developing and Approving Procedures for Sampling, Testing and Controlling the Moisture Content for Solid Bulk Cargoes which may Liquefy or undergo Dynamic Separation**

*To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators and Ship Masters*

***Summary***

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the guidelines for developing and approving procedures for sampling, testing and controlling the moisture content for solid bulk cargoes which may liquefy or undergo dynamic separation. This Note supersedes the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 37/2013 issued on 8 October 2013.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), at its 107<sup>th</sup> session in June 2023, approved the “Guidelines for developing and approving procedures for sampling, testing and controlling the moisture content for solid bulk cargoes which may liquefy or undergo dynamic separation” as annexed to IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1454/Rev.2.
2. The main objectives of the Guidelines are to assist shippers in preparing procedures for sampling, testing and controlling moisture content as required by paragraph 4.3.3 of the IMSBC Code, as well as to assist the competent authorities of ports of loading when approving and checking the implementation of such procedures.
3. This circular supersedes MSC.1/Circ.1454/Rev.1 and the details of the guidelines as set out in circular MSC.1/Circ.1454/Rev.2 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 and ship masters of Hong Kong registered ships are advised to note the Guidelines, taking into account the voluntary application date of 1 January 2023 for amendment 06-21 of the IMSBC Code, pending its envisaged mandatory entry-into-force date of 1 December 2023.

5. The Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 37/2013 issued on 8 October 2013 is hereby superseded.

Marine Department  
Multi-lateral Policy Division

4 September 2023