

## **MARINE DEPARTMENT NOTICE NO. 198/2021**

(Statutory Requirements and Related Information)

### **Extending the Scope of Authorization for Authorized Organizations to Conduct Surveys of Local Vessels under the Statutory Requirements Related to Prevention of Oil Pollution and Air Pollution**

This Notice informs shipowners of local vessels or their agents that the Marine Department (MD) has delegated a list of Authorized Organizations<sup>Note 1</sup> (AOs) to conduct survey work of locally-licensed vessels pursuant to the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations (Cap. 413A) and the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Air Pollution) Regulation (Cap. 413P).

2. Shipowners or their agents of locally-licensed Class I, Class II and Class IV vessels are allowed to engage AOs to conduct the following survey work of their vessels from the date of issuance of this notice:

- (a) To carry out plan approval, initial and renewal surveys of any vessels (other than oil tankers) of 400 gross tonnage (GT) and above, and any oil tankers of 150 GT and above as stipulated in Cap. 413A;
- (b) To carry out the initial and renewal surveys of any vessels of 400 GT and above as stipulated in Cap. 413P; and
- (c) To carry out the annual and intermediate surveys of any vessels of 400 GT and above as stipulated in Cap. 413P, and to endorse the Hong Kong Air Pollution Prevention Certificate (HKAPP).

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<sup>Note 1</sup> An updated list of Authorized Organizations is available at the following MD website:

[https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub\\_services/ocean/pdf/lvs\\_list.pdf](https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub_services/ocean/pdf/lvs_list.pdf)

As at 10 May 2021, delegated Authorized Organizations included American Bureau of Shipping (ABS), Bureau Veritas (BV), China Classification Society (CCS), DNV AS, Lloyd's Register (LR) Asia and Registro Italiano Navale (RINA) Services S.p.A.

3. Issuance of Certificates

- (a) The Director of Marine will issue to the vessel the Hong Kong Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate (HKOPP) upon receipt of the declaration of survey issued by an AO after its completion of the plan approval and surveys for the vessel as mentioned in paragraph 2(a) above.
- (b) The Director of Marine will issue to the vessel the HKAPP upon receipt of the declaration of survey issued by an AO after its completion of the surveys for the vessel as mentioned in paragraph 2(b) above.

4. To engage an AO to conduct plan approval and surveys, the owner of the vessel or his agent is required to complete a “Notice of Engagement” form, which should be duly signed by the AO as an indication of acceptance of the engagement. The form should then be submitted to the Local Vessels Safety Section as a notification of the engagement. The survey costs shall be directly settled by the owner of the vessel or his agent and the Authorized Organization.

5. Apart from engaging AOs, the owner of the vessel or his agent may continue to select the MD to conduct the aforementioned plan approval and survey services for vessels.

6. The owner of the vessel or his agent should note the following:

- (a) If a vessel is unable to fully or partially satisfy any requirements of the regulations due to any type of structural and equipment characteristics, an application for exemption shall be made to the Director of Marine.
- (b) In order to make any alterations to the equipment, system, fittings, arrangement or material of the vessel, a prior approval shall be obtained from the Director of Marine.

- (c) The surveys authorized to be conducted by AOs mentioned in this Notice are not applicable to Hong Kong Oil/Air Pollution Prevention Certificates issued directly by recognized classification societies according to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).

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**Director of Marine**

Marine Department  
Government of the HKSAR  
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