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8 June 2011

To: Shipowners, Ship Managers and Classification Societies

Dear Sir/Madam,

PSC Inspection Checklist for Hong Kong Registered Ships

We are pleased to inform you that Hong Kong has regained the qualification for the United States Coast Guard's Quality Shipping for the 21st Century (Qualship 21) Program on 1 June 2011. We would like to extend to you our sincere thanks for your efforts to properly maintain Hong Kong registered ships and the invaluable support to us.

In order to enhance the quality and further reduce the PSC detention rate of Hong Kong registered ships, in particular in US and Australian ports. We need your continuous efforts and cooperation in proper maintenance of the Hong Kong registered ships as well as conducting pre-arrival inspection in accordance with the PSC Inspection Checklist for Hong Kong Registered Ships (Checklist) before the ships enter into the US or Australian ports.

In view of the recent PSC development in the US and Australian ports, we have revised the PSC inspection Checklist by adding items specifically for Bulk Carriers, Oil Tankers, Chemical Carriers and Gas Carriers. Masters of Hong Kong registered ships must complete and sign the Checklist by following the attached explanatory notes before entering into any US or Australian ports. The completed checklist should be endorsed by the DPA of the management company before submission to the Marine Department for scrutiny and necessary follow-up action.

The Marine Department will continue to maintain high safety and marine pollution prevention standards of the Hong Kong registered ships and endeavor to maintain the QUALSHIP 21 status. However, maintaining a good record of Hong Kong registered ships in PSC inspections requires continual efforts of all stakeholders. As such, we would keep working closely and cooperatively with our shipowners, management companies, classification societies and the masters in achieving this target.

Should you have any question related to the Checklist, please feel free to contact Senior Surveyor/Cargo Ships Safety Section at:

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Yours faithfully,

S.H. Tse

Senior Surveyor/Cargo ships Safety Section
for Director of Marine