

# 海事處

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MARINE DEPARTMENT

Shipping Division

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3 February 2016

To: Shipowners / Ship Managers and Classification Societies

Dear Sir/Madam,

## Request for FSQC Inspection after detention

Flag State Quality Control (FSQC) inspections served to verify the condition of the Hong Kong registered ships (HK ships) and to identify possible causes for their deterioration in standards. HK ships detained by port Administrations were strongly recommended by the Marine Department's Organization Reform Group to be FSQC inspected in order to assess their overall condition and suitability for continuation on the HK Registry.

FSQC inspections of detained HK ships were aimed for a full inspection of the vessel and to highlight the weakness of the SMS as implemented on board the ship, to determine the root cause and to propose corrective/preventive measures, with a view to avoid the ship from future problems with PSC interventions.

While some detentions may involve extra visits of the ship by ROs, but these inspections/audits often and mainly concentrate on the detainable items, which lack the complete review on the overall condition of the detained vessel.

Marine Department (MD) constantly experienced problems with requesting detained HK ships for FSQC inspections. We noted one particular ship had been chased for FSQC inspection for 11 months, and just when the FSQC inspection had been arranged for the next port of arrival, the ship was detained. The detainable items were again found to be standard items on the pre-arrival checklist as published by MD.

To avoid similar incident as experienced above, MD will impose a three month's period for the management company or shipowner to make arrangements for MD to conduct a FSQC inspection on the ship after her detention.

If the management company or shipowner failed to respond to MD's request for FSQC inspection within the three month's period, MD will instruct the ship's ISM RO to replace the existing SMC with a short term certificate of three month's validity.

MD is fully aware that there are exceptional circumstances when a ship cannot be arranged for the FSQC inspection, and we are willing to provide flexibility and consider extension of the short term SMC on a case by case basis based on rational justifications submitted.

Should you have any query, please do not hesitate to contact the Senior Surveyor/Cargo Ships Safety Section at telephone number (852) 2852 4510, fax number (852) 2545 0556 or by email to "[ss\\_css@mardep.gov.hk](mailto:ss_css@mardep.gov.hk)".

Yours faithfully,

*No signature on website copy*

(K.F. KWAN)  
Senior Surveyor/Cargo Ships Safety Section  
for Director of Marine