

# 海事處

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19 October 2017

To: Shipowners / Ship Managers, Masters, Officers and Crewmembers

Dear Sir/Madam,

## **Port State Control Detention - Emergency Generator Unable to Connect Emergency Switchboard Automatically**

We are deeply concerned that two Hong Kong registered ships have been detained recently during Port State Control (PSC) inspections in Australian ports due to emergency generators unable to connect emergency switchboards automatically.

Most ships were equipped with diesel driven emergency generators to provide emergency electrical power source. Regulation 43.3.1 of SOLAS Chapter II-1 requires the generators to be started and connected to emergency switchboards automatically whenever main power source supply fails.

In some detention cases, the crewmembers were able to demonstrate the starting up of the generator engines, but they failed to show how the generators were connected to the emergency switchboards automatically.

To avoid detention of vessel due to the above deficiency, your attention is drawn to ensure not only good maintenance of the emergency source of electrical power system, but also the familiarity of the crewmembers on both the emergency generator and switchboard. The crewmembers shall be

able to demonstrate the functioning of automatic connection between emergency generator and emergency switchboard so as to ensure the readiness and availability of the emergency electrical power under blackout or simulated blackout condition.

The above mentioned item is one of the critical items listed in the 'Additional Check Points for Ships Visiting Australian Ports' (item 16.7 refers) of our 'PSC Inspection Checklist for Hong Kong Registered Ships'. Items on this self-assessment Checklist shall be tested and verified thoroughly in accordance with the Explanatory Notes on the Checklist prior vessel's arrival. The Checklist can be downloaded via the below website:

*[http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub\\_services/cirletter.html](http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub_services/cirletter.html)*

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Cargo Ships Safety (CSS) Section as follows:

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Yours faithfully,

(No signature on website copy)

(K.F. KWAN)

Senior Surveyor/Cargo Ships Safety Section  
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