

海事處

船舶事務科

香港 中環 統一碼頭道 38 號
海港政府大樓 24 樓

電話號碼：(852) 2852 4510
傳真號碼：(852) 2545 0556

網站 Web Site : <https://www.mardep.gov.hk>
電郵地址 E-mail : ss_css@mardep.gov.hk
貴署檔案 Your Ref. : ---
本處檔案 Our Ref. : MD-CSS-F02-040-04A-001



MARINE DEPARTMENT

Shipping Division

24/F., Harbour Building,
38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Tel No. : (852) 2852 4510
Fax No.: (852) 2545 0556

29 September 2022

To: Shipowners, Ship Managers, Classification Societies and Masters of Hong Kong registered ships

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Port State Control (PSC) Detentions of Hong Kong Registered Ships by United States Coast Guard (USCG) in 2022

Recently, the number of detentions of Hong Kong registered ships (HK Ships) under PSC inspections in the United States (US) in 2022 has increased to five (5). This represents a significant increase in comparison with the same period last year. Hong Kong Marine Department (HKMD) recognised that it is important for HK Ships to maintain USCG QUALSHIP 21 status. Clearly, without improvement to the current trend it may be vulnerable for HK Ships to maintain the QUALSHIP 21 status in coming years. HKMD therefore need your co-operation to improve on the PSC performance when HK Ships visiting the US. Therefore, all shipowners, ship managers, and masters of HK Ships are urged to put greatest effort to upkeep the standards of your vessels to avoid detentions. Please refer to the USCG's website (https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/CG-CVC/CVC2/psc/safety/qualship/QS21_EZero.pdf) for the incentives of QUALSHIP 21 vessels.

2. By reviewing the deficiencies found, it is observed that the detentions could have been avoided if the ship would have been checked thoroughly using our PSC Inspection (Pre-arrival) Checklist (Checklist) in Annex before entering ports in the US. The Checklist must be signed by the ship's Master and endorsed by the Designated Person Ashore (DPA) of the management company, and then returned to Cargo Ships Safety Section (CSS) of the HKMD prior to enter first US port for the purpose of assessing the physical condition of the HK Ships. It shall also be completed at least once every three (3) months when a frequent caller is to enter a US port.

3. Particular attention should be given if any one of the items in the Checklist is 'NO', the ship's Master shall record the details of the irregularities and propose the corrective actions accordingly. Should any potential problems be identified or failure of any equipment or machinery that cannot be rectified before entering any port, request for arrangement of repairs must be made without delay by the master. Application for dispensations may be submitted by the management company should repair arrangement cannot be made due to lack of repair facilities or spare parts in the port. The ship's Master or the management company should promptly notify the port authority, the classification society and HKMD, as appropriate, in advance to avoid possible detention.
4. While HKMD may issue dispensations for equipment failure where considered justified, dispensations always come with a set of conditions in which one of them is to have the defect rectified at the first opportunity.
5. HKMD appreciate your efforts and your valuable support in maintaining high standards of the HK Ships.
6. Should you have any queries related to PSC inspections for HK Ships, please do not hesitate to contact Senior Surveyor / Cargo Ships Safety Section by email at ss_css@mardep.gov.hk.

Yours faithfully,

(No signature on website)

(C. W. HO)

Senior Surveyor of Ship / Cargo Ships Safety Section
Shipping Division
for Director of Marine

Encl.: Annex - PSC Inspection (Pre-arrival) Checklist