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31 October 2014

To: All Masters, Ship Security Officers and Company Security Officers of Hong Kong registered ships

Security and Quality Advisory No. 40 **Recent Pirate Attack to a Hong Kong Registered Tanker**

This circular letter draws the attention of the concerned parties to a recent pirate attack on a Hong Kong registered tanker in the South China Sea.

At 0300 hours local time on 21 October 2014, 5 to 6 pirates boarded a Hong Kong registered oil/chemical tanker with knives and guns at a position 01° 35.6'N 104° 29.7'E off the east coast of Malaysia. After boarding the vessel, they took control of the bridge and damaged all the communication equipment including Inmarsat-C station, VHF, etc.. At 0320 hours the pirates gathered all crew members in the Chief Engineer's cabin and tied up their hands and legs. The engineers were instructed to stop the engine and the pirates tried to pump out 10 tonnes of diesel oil from the engine room but without success due to wrong pipe connection. However, they fetched the cash, computers, mobile phones, etc. from the Master's and crew's cabins. At 0600 hours the pirates manoeuvred the vessel and dropped anchor at a position 01° 48.2'N 104° 31.8'E. The windlass was also damaged by them and then they escaped by a speedboat. It was fortunate that no crew members were injured during the incident.

Vessels navigating in the vicinity of the subject location are advised to exercise vigilance and take any necessary precautionary measures to avoid boarding by pirates.

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(S.T. LI)

Senior Surveyor/Security & Quality Assurance Section
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