



## 香港商船資訊

## HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

**Amendments to the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code and the Revised Emergency Response Procedures for Ships carrying Dangerous Goods (EmS Guide)**

*To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters and Classification Societies*

***Summary***

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned that the 108<sup>th</sup> session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted amendments (42-24) to the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code, entering into force on 1 January 2026. Consequently, MSC 108 approved the *Revised emergency response procedures for ships carrying dangerous goods (EmS Guide)*.

This Note supersedes the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 29/2022 issued on 2 August 2022.

1. The MSC 108<sup>th</sup> session, by resolution MSC.556(108) on 23 May 2024, adopted the amendments (42-24) to the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code, which will enter into force on 1 January 2026. Resulting from the amendments (42-24) to the IMDG Code, MSC 108<sup>th</sup> session approved the *Revised emergency response procedures for ships carrying dangerous goods (EmS Guide)* and disseminated as MSC.1/Circ.1588/Rev.3. The MSC.1/Circ.1588/Rev.2 is superseded.

2. The amendments (42-24) to the IMDG Code include the following changes:

- (i) to add 11 substances and articles to the Dangerous Good List, including sodium ion batteries and equipment containing such batteries (UN Numbers 3551 and 3552) and vehicles powered by sodium ion batteries or lithium batteries (UN Numbers 3556 to 3558);
- (ii) to assign vehicles powered by sodium ion battery or lithium battery to Class 9 and add a new packing instruction for such vehicles; and

- (iii) to add a new stowage code for flammable gases or liquids having flashpoint of less than 23°C, requiring the stowage to keep a certain distance away from any potential source of ignition

3. The complete text of the IMDG Code 2024 Edition set out in the annex to resolution MSC.556(108) and the revised consolidated version of *EmS Guide* set out in MSC.1/Circ.1588/Rev.3 can be found on the website of Marine Department as attachment to this Information Note (<https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/legislation/notices/msin/index.html>).

4. Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters and Classification Societies are advised to note the information provided in the documents and act accordingly.

5. The Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 29/2022 issued on 2 August 2022 is hereby superseded.

Marine Department  
Multi-lateral Policy Division

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