



## Hong Kong Shipping Registry

Excelling with Innovation

Navigating through Green Shipping



### First choice for shipowners

The Hong Kong Shipping Registry (HKSR) is operated by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region through the Marine Department. The HKSR, with over 2,300 registered ships totalling over 130 million gross tonnage, is the fourth largest ship register in the world.

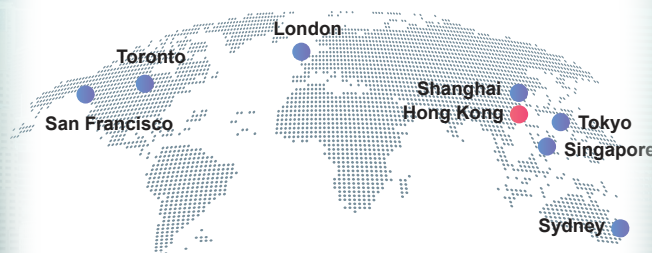
Shipowners registering their ships with the HKSR will enjoy access to an unparalleled business environment in Hong Kong and gain the advantage of Hong Kong's strategic geographical location as Mainland China's door-step, and a less-than-five-hour flight to anywhere in the Asia region.



### High quality flag and premier service

- Consistently listed on the whitelists of the Paris MoU and Tokyo MoU, and earning persistent recognition in the United States Coast Guard Qualship 21 Program.
- The port State detention rate of Hong Kong registered ships was 0.8% in 2023, far lower than the global average of 3.4%.
- Regional desks are located across the globe, offering readily available technical support and advice by qualified and professional staff 24/7.
- Digitalized one-stop services and e-certificates available.

### Regional Desks



### Business friendly environment

- Independent common law system.
- Hong Kong's cluster of over 1,100 port and maritime-related companies provides a range of quality services, ranging from ship agency and management, shipbroking, ship finance, marine insurance, and maritime legal and arbitration services.



### Cost benefits

- HKSR does not seek profit from ship registration fees. Most services are provided on a cost-recovery basis.
- Hong Kong registered ships enjoy preferential port tonnage tax treatment with up to 30% reduction in port dues at Mainland China ports.
- No profits tax is levied on international trade of Hong Kong registered ships.
- Hong Kong has signed bilateral double taxation relief agreements covering shipping income with 55 trading partners.
- Preferential tax regime for selected maritime sectors e.g. 0% for ship leasing; 8.25% for ship management, ship broking, ship agency, marine & specialty risk insurance.





## Simple Registration Process

### Registrable ship:

- a majority interest in the ship is owned by one or more qualified persons; or
- operated under a demise charter by a body corporate being a qualified person

### Qualified person:

- an individual who holds a valid identity card and who is ordinarily resident in Hong Kong; or
- a body corporate incorporated in Hong Kong; or
- a registered non-Hong Kong company

→ Register with Hong Kong Companies Registry  
[crenq@cr.gov.hk](mailto:crenq@cr.gov.hk)

### Submission to Hong Kong Shipping Registry

- Online submission – OSS  
([https://ebs.mardep.gov.hk/en/services\\_ship\\_registration\\_ships\\_services.php](https://ebs.mardep.gov.hk/en/services_ship_registration_ships_services.php))
- By email to [hksr@mardep.gov.hk](mailto:hksr@mardep.gov.hk)
- By post to Room 302, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Reserve ship name

Submit application for registration of a ship

Receive Approval-in-principle (AIP) letter

Undergo Pre-registration Quality Control (PRQC) assessment

Provide required documents as specified in AIP letter

Hong Kong Shipping Registry (HKSr)

- Certificate of Registry (COR)
- Continuous Synopsis Record (CSR)

Cargo Ships Safety Section (CSS)

- MSMC, DMLC-1
- Exemption
- BCC, CIC
- WRC

MD's Recognized Organizations (ROs)

- Other trade certificates

Apply for relevant certificates

Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA)

- Ship Station Licence

## Fee Charges

The registration fee is based on a ship's gross tonnage and capped at a maximum of HKD15,000.

The Annual Tonnage Charge (ATC) is based on a ship's net tonnage, and capped at maximum of HKD77,500.

Check out the registration fee and ATC Calculator here



## ATC Reduction Scheme

The ATC Reduction Scheme has been of benefit to responsible owners since its inception in 2006.

### The Criterion:

Within the past two years, the ship has no detention record under any Port State Control (PSC) regime.

### The Incentive Amount:

The registered ship will qualify for a 50% ATC reduction for the following year.



### Hong Kong Shipping Registry

For further information:  
Ship Registration Services Section  
Marine Department  
Room 302, 3/F, Harbour Building  
38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong  
Tel: +852 2852 4421/ +852 2852 4387  
Fax: +852 2541 8842  
E-mail: [hksr@mardep.gov.hk](mailto:hksr@mardep.gov.hk)

2024 – 2026

## Green Incentive Scheme

To encourage Hong Kong registered ships to attain high ratings in the international standards on decarbonisation set by the International Maritime Organization, the Marine Department offers a token of its appreciation to the owners of Hong Kong registered ships for their ongoing efforts in decarbonising their vessels.

### The Criteria:

- All ships with a gross tonnage of 5,000 or above; and
- Attain A or B rating in the annual operational Carbon Intensity Indicator (CII).

### The Incentive Amount:

HKD20,000 per year for each ship.

### The Implementation Date:

Starting from 28 June 2024 until 31 December 2026.



## Block Registration Incentive Scheme

Aiming to benefit shipowners who register multiple ships with the HKSr within a designated timeframe.

### The Criteria:

- Registration of two or more ships (with a cumulative gross tonnage of not less than 50,000);
- Ship age of not more than 10 years at the time of registration with HKSr; and
- Registration of all ships completed within 24 months from the first ship's registration date.

### The Incentive Amount:

A full refund of the registration fee and the first year ATC.

### The Implementation Date:

Starting from 14 February 2025 and onward.