

Hong Kong Fleet Operation Advisory Committee
Block Registration Incentive Scheme and Application Procedures
for Eligible Ships

Purpose

This paper informs Members about the Block Registration Incentive Scheme (the Scheme) and the application procedures for eligible ships.

Background

2. The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSARG) promulgated the Action Plan on Maritime and Port Development Strategy¹ on 20 December 2023 to formulate 10 strategies and 32 action measures to support the sustainable development needs of the maritime and port industry in Hong Kong, with a view to enhancing the long-term competitiveness of the industry. One of the action measures is to explore the implementation of block registration incentive targeting shipowners who register multiple ships with the Hong Kong Shipping Registry (HKSR) within a specified processing period.

3. To move forward the block registration incentive measure and having consulted this Committee in December 2023, the Marine Department (MD) proposed legislative amendment to the Merchant Shipping (Registration) (Fees and Charges) Regulations (Cap.415A) in order to launch the Scheme. Details of the Scheme and the application procedures are outlined in the ensuing paragraphs.

¹ https://www.hkmpb.gov.hk/publications/Action_Plan_on_Maritime_and_Port_Development_Strategy_web.pdf

The Scheme

4. Under the Scheme, the ship registration fee and the annual tonnage charge (ATC) for the first year of ship registration would be refunded under the following criteria:-

- i. two or more ships are newly registered with HKSR by a shipowner / ship management company / ship agent with an accumulated gross tonnage at least 50 000 gross tonnage²;
- ii. the age of each ship should be 10 years or less at the time of registration³;
- iii. the ship has never been granted refund under the Scheme;
- iv. the ship is not a Hong Kong registered ship between a “specific date”⁴ as specified in the legislation and on the date of submission of application to the Scheme;
- v. the registration of all relevant ships should be completed within 24 months from the first ship’s registration date⁵; and
- vi. the ship remains registered in Hong Kong for not less than 12 months.

5. The Scheme’s refund criteria (mentioned in above para.4) will be included in the proposed legislative amendment of Cap.415A.

² Gross Tonnage is referred to the particulars stipulated in Certificate of Registry.

³ Age of ship is calculated from the ship’s delivery date to the registration date on Certificate of Registry.

⁴ “specific date” is the commencement date of the Scheme.

⁵ The registration date of the first ship will be the starting date for the 24-month period. The accumulated gross tonnage is calculated at the end of 24-month period and only apply to ships registered with HKSR under the same application form.

Application and Payment Arrangements

6. The commencement of the Scheme is subject to the progress of legislative amendment of Cap.415A. MD will further inform the launching date of the Scheme in due course. Whilst the application form and payment arrangements are detailed in **Annex 1**, please find below some important remarks for attention when applying for the Scheme:

- (a) The applicant can be a ship owner, demise charterer (if applicable), representative person, ship management company, or ship agent, etc. No proof of authorization to the applicant is required.
- (b) The application form for all ships intending to register with HKSR must be submitted before the first ship is successfully registered.
- (c) The ship registration fee and ATC for the first year of the eligible ships must be paid on time.
- (d) Any ship under each application that meets the Scheme's refund criteria will be refunded in next anniversary cycle. By the time of refund, HKSR will conduct document checks. Depending on the actual situation, the refund to eligible ships' owner (or the demise charterer as shown in the Certificate of Registry in the case of demise charter registration) will normally be delivered within three months after the next anniversary date of registration. The refund will be paid in the form of a crossed cheque by post. The eligible ships must remain their registration with HKSR on the date the refund is granted.
- (e) The name of payee should be the Shipowner as shown in the latest Certificate of Registry. In the case of Demise Charter Registration, the name of payee should be the Demise Charterer

as shown in the latest Certificate of Registry. This office may consider accepting a payee other than the shipowner / demise charterer, if written authorization from shipowner / demise charterer for the payee appointed for receiving the refund could be provided.

- (f) The eligible ship is not specified in any other active application of this scheme.
- (g) The ships specified in the application form is unchangeable once the first ship is successfully registered.
- (h) Ships that have not completed registration at the end of the 24-month period could be included in another application.
- (i) Regarding the approval of refund, HKSR reserves the right of final decision.

May 2024

**Hong Kong Shipping Registry
Marine Department**

Encl.

Annex 1- Application Form



香港特別行政區政府海事處
MARINE DEPARTMENT
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

批量註冊優惠計劃申請表

Application for Block Registration Incentive Scheme

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| For Official Use Only 本處專用 | |
| Application for the Scheme 申請計劃 | Application No. 申請號碼 _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved 批准 <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected 拒絕 (Reason 理由:) _____ | |
| Name and Signature of Authorized Officer 獲授權人員姓名及簽署 _____ | |
| Date 日期 _____ | |

填寫本表格前，請參閱「填表須知」及「收集個人資料聲明」。

Please read the 'Guidance Notes' and 'Personal Data Collection Statement' before filling this form.

A. Particulars of Applicant 甲部 — 申請人資料

| | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|--|
| Applicant 申請人 | | | |
| *HK Identity Card No./Company Registration No. & Business Registration Certificate (if applicable) *香港身份證號碼/公司編號及商業登記(如適用) | | | |
| Address 地址 | | | |
| Tel. No. 電話號碼 | | Mobile Phone No. 流動電話號碼 | |
| Fax No. 傳真號碼 | | Email Address 電郵地址 | |
| Role / 身份 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tick as appropriate 請在適當方格內加上「 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 」號 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ship Owner(s) 船東 <input type="checkbox"/> Demise Charterer 轉管租約承租人 <input type="checkbox"/> Representative Person 代表人 <input type="checkbox"/> Ship Management Company 船舶管理公司 <input type="checkbox"/> Ship Agent 船舶代理人 <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Please specific) 其他(請指明) _____ | | |

* Delete where inappropriate 刪去不適用者

B. Details of Application 乙部 — 申請資料

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Type of application 申請類型 | <input type="checkbox"/> New Application 新的申請 <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment to an existing Application 修改目前申請 Application No. 申請號碼 : _____ |
|-----------------------------|---|

| Ship Name 船舶名稱 | IMO No. 國際海事組 織編號 | Gross Tonnage 總噸位 | Date of Delivery 船舶交付日 期 | Current Flag Administration / New Build 目前的 註冊地 / 新建 | Intended Date of Registration in HKSR 計劃在香港船舶註冊 處的註冊日期 |
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C. Documents submitted 丙部 — 提交的文件

| |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Applicant's identification document, such as HK Identity Card / Company Registration No. & Business Registration Certificate (if applicable) 申請人身分證明文件副本，例如香港身分證/公司註冊號碼及商業登記（如適用） |
|---|

D. Declaration 丁部 — 聲明

1. I confirm that I have been agreed upon by the shipowners to make this application on their behalf. 本人現確認本人已獲船東同意代表船東作出此項申請。
2. I confirm that the ships as specified in Part B, have not been applied for and granted refund under this scheme. 本人確認乙部所列明的船舶未曾依此計劃申請和獲發退款。
3. I declare that all the information and documents given in this application are full, true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. 本人聲明就本人所知所信，在本申請表內所填報的各項資料及一併提交的文件均屬全面、真實及完整。
4. I understand that if I give false or incorrect information intentionally, or forge the submitted document, then the application will be ceased. I have to return all the refunds received, the Government reserves the right to recover by civil action all the refunds given to me and render myself liable to legal prosecution. 本人明白如蓄意提供虛假或不正確資料，或偽造提交的文件，此申請即喪失資格接受本計劃資助。本人須退回所有已收到的退款，同時政府保留循民事程序追回全部已給本人的退款及對本人提出檢控。
5. I understand that the application will not be processed if I fail to provide all the requested information. 本人明白若未能按要求提供所有資料，此申請將不獲處理。
6. My acceptance of the refund indicates my agreement to provide, where necessary, assistance and data to researches related to the Scheme conducted by the Government or its authorized agents. 若接受退款即表示本人同意在有需要時提供協助及資料予政府或其授權代理人作有關本計劃的研究。
7. I agree that the data provided in this application can be used by the Government or other parties authorized by law for funding and administrative purposes. I am aware that subject to exemptions under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance I have a right of access and correction with respect to personal data. Request for personal data access and correction can be addressed to the Ship Registration Services Section of the Marine Department. 本人明白在本表格內所提供的資料可被政府或法例賦權的其他機構用作撥款及行政用途。本人清楚在不抵觸《個人資料(私隱)條例》的豁免條文下，本人有權要求索閱及修正個人資料。索閱及修改個人資料可向海事處船舶註冊服務組查詢。
8. I have read, understood, and undertake to comply with the following clauses:
我已閱讀、明白及會遵守下列條款：
 - i. the Government reserves the right to disqualify this application on the grounds that the Applicant has engaged, is engaging, or is reasonably believed to have engaged or be engaging in acts or activities that are likely to cause or constitute the occurrence of offences endangering national security or otherwise the exclusion of the Applicant from future applications for the Scheme is necessary in the interest of national security, or is necessary to protect the public interest of Hong Kong, public morals, public order or public safety;
政府保留權利以申請人曾經參與、正在參與或有理由相信申請人曾經或正在參與可能導致或構成發生危害國家安全罪行的行為或活動為由，取消申請人的是次申請，又或為維護國家安全，或為保障香港的公眾利益、公共道德、公共秩序或公共安全，而有必要剔除申請人日後申請本計劃的資格。
 - ii. even after the application is approved, the Government may immediately withdraw or cancel the relevant approval, and I have to repay to the Government all the monies received from the application and the Government reserves the right to recover by civil action and I may be liable to prosecution. upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
 - the Applicant has engaged or is engaging in acts or activities that are likely to constitute or cause the occurrence of offences endangering national security or which would otherwise be contrary to the interest of national security;
 - the payment of refund to the Applicant is contrary to the interest of national security; or
 - the Government reasonably believes that any of the events mentioned above is about to occur.即使有關申請已獲批准，如果出現下列任何一種情況，政府可立即撤回或取消有關批准，本人並須退回所有就此申請已收取的款項，同時政府保留權利循民事程序追討及對本人提出檢控：
 - 申請人曾經參與或正在參與可能會構成或導致發生危害國家安全罪行或不利於國家安全的行為或活動；
 - 繼續向申請人發放退款將不利於國家安全；或
 - 政府合理地相信上述任何一種情況將會發生。

Signature of Applicant 申請人簽署

For company, please affix the company

seal/stamp 如屬公司，請加蓋公司印章。 _____

Date

日期 _____

GUIDANCE NOTES 填表須知

Please read the following Notes before completing this application form. 填寫本表格前，請參閱以下的須知事項。

General

1. The applicant of the Block Registration Incentive Scheme (the Scheme) can be a ship owner, demise charterer (if applicable), representative person, ship management company, ship agent or others as specified in Part A. No proof of authorization to the applicant is required.
 2. Under the Scheme, the ship registration fee and the annual tonnage charge (ATC) for the first year of ship registration would be refunded under the following criteria: -
 - i. two or more ships are registered with HKSAR by a shipowner/ ship management company/ship agent with an accumulated gross tonnage at least 50 000 gross tonnage.
 - ii. the age of each ship should be 10 years or less at the time of registration.
 - iii. the ship has never been granted refund under this scheme.
 - iv. the ship is not a Hong Kong registered ship between a "specific date" as specified in the legislation and on the date of submission of this application.
 - v. the registration of all relevant ships should be completed within 24 months from the first ship's registration date.
 - vi. the ship remains registered in Hong Kong for not less than 12 months.
- Note 1: Gross Tonnage is referred to the particulars stipulated in Certificate of Registry.
- Note 2: Age of ship is calculated from the ship's delivery date to the registration date on Certificate of Registry.
- Note 3: "specific date" is the commencement date of the Scheme.
- Note 4: The registration date of the first ship will be the starting date for the 24-month period. The accumulated gross tonnage is calculated at the end of the 24-month period and only apply to ships as specified in Part B and registered with HKSAR will be counted.
3. Eligible ships mean registered ships that have fulfilled criteria listed under item 2.
 4. This application form must be submitted before the first ship is successfully registered.
 5. The ship registration fee and ATC for the first year of the eligible ships must be paid on time.
 6. Any ship under each application that meets the Scheme's refund criteria will be refunded in next anniversary cycle. By the time of refund, this office will conduct document checks. Depending on the actual situation, the approved refund to eligible ships' owner (or the demise charterer as shown in the Certificate of Registry in the case of demise charter registration) will normally be delivered within three months after the next anniversary date of registration. The refund will be paid in the form of a crossed cheque by post.

一般事項

1. 批量註冊優惠計劃（計劃）的申請人可以是船東、轉管租約承租人（如適用）、代表人、船舶管理公司、船舶代理人或在甲部填寫的其他人士。申請人無須提供授權證明。
 2. 計劃下，船舶註冊費用和第一年噸位年費將根據以下標準退款：-
 - i. 船東/船舶管理公司/船舶代理人在香港船舶註冊處註冊兩艘或以上船舶，累計總噸位不少於50 000總噸位。
 - ii. 每艘船舶註冊時的船齡應為10年或以下。
 - iii. 船舶未曾於此計劃獲發退款。
 - iv. 船舶在法例指明的“指明日期”至提交本申請當天並非於香港註冊。
 - v. 所有適用船舶的註冊須於首艘船舶註冊之日起24個月內完成。
 - vi. 船舶在香港註冊不少於12個月。
- 註 1：總噸位參照註冊證明書的詳情。
- 註 2：船齡以船舶交付日至註冊證明書上的註冊日期計算。
- 註 3：“指明日期”是本計劃的生效日。
- 註 4：首艘船舶註冊日期為24個月期限的開始日。累計總噸位在24個月期限結束計算，並僅適用於乙部所列明及已註冊在香港船舶註冊處的船舶。
3. 符合船舶是指符合第二項所列標準的註冊船舶。
 4. 本申請表格須於首艘船舶註冊成功前提交。
 5. 符合船舶的註冊費用和第一年噸位年費須按時支付。
 6. 每項申請中符合計劃下的退款標準的船舶將於下一周年期退款。在退款時，本處將進行文件檢查。根據實際情況，獲批退款一般會在下一周年日的三個月內發給給符合船舶的船東（或在轉管租約承租船註冊的情況下，註冊證書中所示的轉管租約承租人）。退款將以劃線支票的形式以郵寄方式支付。如需其他付款方式，請聯絡本處。符合船舶須在獲發退款當日仍然註冊在香港船舶註冊處。
- 註 1：如該船舶註冊為聯名船東，請提供其他船東就指定的收款人的同意書。
- 註 2：收款人名稱應與最新註冊證明書上的船東名稱相同。如屬轉管租約註冊船舶，其收款人名稱則應為最新註冊證明書上所示的轉管租約承租人。本處可考慮接受船東/轉管租約承租人以外的收款人，請為指定收款人提供船東/轉管租約承租人的書面授權。
7. 符合船舶沒有被列明在此計劃的其他有效申請中。
 8. 乙部所列明的船舶在首艘船舶註冊成功後不能修改。
 9. 乙部所列明的船舶在24個月期限結束時尚未註冊可包括在其他申請中。
 10. 關於退款的審批，本處保留最終決定權。
 11. 填妥後的申請表和所有證明文件副本可以郵寄（香港中環統一碼頭道 38 號海港政府大樓 3 樓 302 室）

For other payment methods, please contact this office. The eligible ships must remain their registration with HKSR on the date the refund is granted.

Note 1: For ship registered as joint owners, the consent from other owner(s) for the payee appointed for receiving the refund.

Note 2: The name of payee should be the Shipowner as shown in the latest Certificate of Registry. In the case of Demise Charter Registration, the name of payee should be the Demise Charterer as shown in the latest Certificate of Registry. This office may consider accepting a payee other than the shipowner /demise charterer, please provide written authorization from shipowner /demise charterer for the payee appointed for receiving the refund.

7. The eligible ship is not specified in any other active application of this scheme.
8. The ships specified in Part B is unchangeable once the first ship is successfully registered.
9. Ships specified in Part B that have not completed registration at the end of the 24-month period could be included in another application.
10. Regarding the approval of refund, this office reserves the right of final decision.
11. Completed application form of together with copies of all supporting documents may be submitted to the Ship Registration Services Section either by post (Room 302, 3/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong) or e-mail (blockregistrationincentive@mardep.gov.hk). For any enquiries related to this application, please email to the above email address.

或電郵(blockregistrationincentive@mardep.gov.hk)方式遞交至海事處船舶註冊服務組。若對此申請有任何疑問，亦可通過上述電郵查詢。

Personal Data Collection Statement

1. Purposes of Collection

The personal data provided by means of this form will be used by Marine Department for the following purposes:

- (a) activities relating to the processing of your application in this form;
- (b) facilitating communication between Marine Department and yourself; and
- (c) for statistics and research purposes on the condition that the resulting statistics or results will not be made available in a form which will identify the data subjects.

2. Classes of Transferees

The personal data you provided by means of this form may be disclosed to other Government Bureaux and Departments for the purposes mentioned in paragraph 1 above.

3. Access to Personal Data

You have a right of access and correction with respect to personal data as provided for in Sections 18 and 22 and Principle 6 of Schedule 1 of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance. Your right of access includes the right to obtain a copy of your personal data provided by this form.

4. Enquires

Enquiries concerning the personal data collected by means of this form, including the making of access and correction, should be addressed to:

Officer-in-charge
Ship Registration Services Section
Marine Department
Room 302, 3/F, Harbour Building
38 Pier Road, Central
Hong Kong

收集個人資料聲明

1. 收集目的

海事處會使用透過本申請表所獲得的個人資料作下列用途：

- (a) 辦理有關審批你在本申請表中所提出的申請的事務；
- (b) 方便海事處與你聯絡；以及
- (c) 供作統計及研究用途，但所得的統計數字或研究成果，不會以能辨識各有關的資料當事人或其中任何人的身份的形式提供。

2. 獲轉交資料的部門／人士

你透過本申請表所提供的個人資料會向其他政府部門、決策局及有關機構，以作上述第 1 段所列的用途。

3. 索閱個人資料

根據《個人資料(私隱)條例》第 18 及 22 條及附表 1 第 6 條，你有權索閱及修正你的個人資料。你的索閱權包括獲取本申請表所提供的個人資料副本一份。

4. 查詢

有關透過本申請表收集的個人資料的查詢，包括索閱及修正資料，應寄往：

香港
中環統一碼頭 38 號
海港政府大樓 3 樓 302 室
船舶註冊服務組主管