

For Information

High Speed Craft Consultative Committee (HSCCC)

A 3-Day River Trade

Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) Course

Organized by the Maritime Services Training Institute

BACKGROUND

1. The 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) and its associated Code specified ECDIS training requirements for masters and deck officers and these requirements will become mandatory on 1st January 2017.

APPLICATION

2. At present, there are 46 Hong Kong registered Passenger High Speed Craft (HSC) operated by three companies: Shun Tak - China Travel Ship Management Ltd., Shun Tak - China Travel Macau Ferries Ltd. and Chu Kong High-Speed Ferry Co., Ltd. All 46 HSC were installed with ECDIS as per the requirements of 2006 amendment of HSC Code 1994. The numbers of navigating officers (i.e. Master and Chief Officer) that are required to attend

ECDIS training course are about 210 and 64 respectively for the use of the ECDIS equipment.

PROPOSAL

3. The Maritime Services Training Institute (MSTI) has modified the existing one-week ECDIS course for sea-going navigating officers into a 3-day River Trade ECDIS training course for HSC navigating officers. The content of the modified course is based on the IMO model course 1.27 with fewer requirements that may not be appropriate to HSC operating in the river trade waters. The Marine Department (MD) is reviewing the modified course including the instructors' qualification and the course structure. MSTI will formally announce the course to the industry upon receipt of the approval from MD.

Shipping Registry and Seafarers' Branch

Marine Department

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