

LOCAL VESSELS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Extending the Scope of Authorization for Authorized Organizations and Recognized Authorities¹ for Survey of Local Vessels

Purpose

This paper brief members of the details on extending the scope of authorization for Recognized Authorities (RAs) and Authorized Organizations¹ (AOs) to conduct plan approval and survey work of local vessels as set out in this paper.

Background

2. Pursuant to Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance (Cap. 548), the Director of Marine has authorized surveyors employed by RA (currently the Guangdong Register of Fishing Vessels (廣東省漁政執法總隊)) and surveyors employed by AOs to conduct plan approval and survey work for specified classes of locally licensed vessels.

3. When the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Safety and Survey) (Amendment) Regulation 2020 (Cap. 548G) came into force on 1 August 2020, Class IV vessels of ship length $\geq 24\text{m}$ and ≤ 150 GT and licensed for the first time on or after 1 August 2020 are required to possess a Certificate of Inspection (COI). Class IV vessels of ship length $\geq 24\text{m}$ and > 150 GT and licensed for the first time on or after 1 August 2020 are required to possess a Certificate of Survey (COS).

4. In addition, under the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) (Amendment) Regulation 2020 (Cap. 413A) and the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Air Pollution) (Amendment) Regulation 2020 (Cap. 413P), the Director of Marine may authorize recognized organizations to carry out plan approval and survey work for local vessels which are required to comply with the Merchant Shipping (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Ordinance

¹ A list of Recognized Authorities and Authorized Organizations (updated on 8 August 2020) is at http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub_services/ocean/pdf/lvs_list.pdf.

(Cap. 413). The Director of Marine will issue the Hong Kong Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate (HKOPP) under Cap. 413A and Hong Kong Air Pollution Prevention Certificate (HKAPP) under Cap. 413P upon receipt of the declaration of survey issued by RA and AO.

Extension of the Scope of Authorization

5. The industry has urged the Marine Department (MD) to streamline the process of survey of local vessels under Cap. 548 and to further extend the scope of authorization to cover the survey under Cap. 413A and Cap. 413P. Having considered the requests of the trade and without prejudice to ship's safety, MD will further extend the scope of authorization to allow AO and RA to cover the following services-

- (i) AOs will carry out-
 - (a) plans approval, initial and renewal surveys for local vessels (other than oil tanker) of 400 gross tonnage (GT) and above, and Class II vessels that are oil tanker of 150 GT and above for MD to issue HKOPP;
 - (b) the initial and renewal surveys for local vessels of 400 GT and above for MD to issue HKAPP;
 - (c) annual and intermediate surveys for local vessels of 400 GT and above and endorse the HKAPP;
 - (d) plan approval and survey of Class IV vessels licensed for the first time on or after 1 August 2020 which are of ship length (L) $\geq 24\text{m}$ and ≤ 150 GT and issue the COI;
 - (e) plan approval and survey of Class IV vessels licensed for the first time on or after 1 August 2020 which are of ship length (L) $\geq 24\text{m}$ and > 150 GT for MD to issue the COS; and
 - (f) final inspection for local vessels except Class IV vessel of novel construction.
- (ii) RAs will carry out-
 - (a) plan approval, initial and renewal survey for Class III vessels

of 400 GT and above for MD to issue HKOPP;

- (b) initial and renewal survey for Class III vessels of 400 GT and above for MD to issue HKAPP; and
- (c) annual and intermediate surveys for Class III vessels of 400 GT and above and endorse the HKAPP.

The respective scopes of authorization for AOs and RAs after the extension are shown at **Annex 1** and **Annex 2** respectively.

6. The extension of the authorization in paragraph 5 above will provide the industry with greater access to services offered by AO and RA, thus allowing vessel owners and operators with more flexibility in arranging plan approval and surveys for vessels.

Way Forward

7. MD will liaise with AOs and the RA with a view to signing the new agreements as soon as possible. We will issue a Marine Department Notice (MDN) to inform the trade of the new scopes of authorization and post them on MD's website when the new agreements are signed. The relevant parts of the Code of Practice for local vessels to reflect the new arrangements will also be amended as appropriate.

8. The target implementation date of the extended scope of authorization under Cap. 548 for AOs is Q4 2020; while the new authorization under Cap. 413A and Cap. 413P for both AOs and RA is Q1 2021.

9. Members are invited to note the content of this paper.

Local Vessels Safety Branch
Marine Department
October 2020

**Scope of Services
for Authorized Surveyors employed by an Appointed Organization**

To carry out surveys and to approve plans of the following classes of vessels:

| Under Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance (Cap. 548) and its sub-legislation Cap. 548G | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Initial Survey (see Note 1) | Periodical Survey (see Note 1) | Plan Approval (see Note 2) |
| Class I, II, III and IV vessels (see Note 3) | | |

| Under Merchant Shipping (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Ordinance (Cap. 413) and its sub-legislation : Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations (Cap. 413A) Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Air Pollution) Regulation (Cap. 413P) | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <u>Initial Survey</u> (see Note 4) | <u>Intermediate Survey</u> (see Note 4 and 5) | <u>Annual Survey</u> (see Note 4 and 5) | <u>Renewal Survey</u> (see Note 4) | <u>Plan Approval</u> (see Note 6) |
| Class I, II, III and IV vessels (see Note 3) | | | | |

Notes

- (1) ‘Initial Survey’ and ‘Periodical Survey’ including final inspection are defined in the Code of Practice – Safety Standards for Class I or II or III or IV Vessels.
- (2) ‘Plan Approval’ means the approval of any plan in respect of a local vessel which is required to be approved by sections 7 to 14 of the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Safety and Survey) Regulation (Cap 548 G).
- (3) Class I, II, III or IV vessel has the same meaning as defined under the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Certification and Licensing) Regulation (Cap 548 D).
- (4) “Initial Survey” , “Annual Survey” ,”Intermediate Survey” and “Renewal Survey” are defined in Part II “Surveys, Certificates and Oil Record Book” in Cap. 413A and Part 5 “Surveys” Division 2 “Surveys in relation to Specified Certificates” in Cap. 413P.
- (5) “Intermediate Survey” and “Annual Survey” are only applicable to Authorization under Cap. 413P
- (6) Plan approval work in relation to plan applicable to the surveys under Cap. 413A

[xxxxxx] the highlighted parts are new scope of services. The exact date of implementation will be announced vide MDN.

Remarks

- (i) For any licensed Class IV vessel meeting the following scopes, a Certificate of Inspection (CoI) will be issued directly by an authorized surveyor employed by an Appointed Organization after satisfactory completion of necessary approval of plans, survey and final inspection.

| Length (L)/GT | Let for Hire or Reward | License (Commence on) | No. of Passengers | Remark |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| ≥24m & ≤150GT | Yes | On or after 1 August 2020 | ≤60 | excluding novel type |
| <24m | | | | |
| ≥24m & ≤150GT | No | | | |
| ≤150GT | Yes | Existing and before 1 August 2020 | | |

- (ii) The Scope of Services includes plan approval and survey for the modification of Class I, II, III and Class IV vessels.

Scope of Services
for Authorized Surveyors employed by the
[廣東省漁政執法總隊 Guangdong Register of Fishing Vessels]

To carry out surveys and to approve plans of Class III vessels:

| Under Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance (Cap. 548) and its sub-legislation Cap. 548G | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Initial Survey (see Note 1) | Periodical Survey (see Note 1) | Plan Approval (see Note 2) |
| Class III vessels (see Note 3) | | |

| Under Merchant Shipping (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Ordinance (Cap. 413) and its sub-legislation : Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations (Cap. 413A) Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Air Pollution) Regulation (Cap. 413P) | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <u>Initial Survey</u> (see Note 4) | <u>Intermediate Survey</u> (see Note 4 and 5) | <u>Annual Survey</u> (see Note 4 and 5) | <u>Renewal Survey</u> (see Note 4) | <u>Plan Approval</u> (see Note 6) |
| Class III vessels (see Note 3) | | | | |

Notes

- (1) ‘Initial Survey’ and ‘Periodical Survey’ including final inspection are defined in the Code of Practice – Safety Standards for Class I or II or III or IV Vessels.
- (2) ‘Plan Approval’ means the approval of any plan in respect of a local vessel which is required to be approved by sections 7 to 14 of the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Safety and Survey) Regulation (Cap 548 G).
- (3) Class III vessel has the same meaning as defined under the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Certification and Licensing) Regulation (Cap 548 D).
- (4) “Initial Survey” , “Annual Survey” ,”Intermediate Survey” and “Renewal Survey” are defined in Part II “Surveys, Certificates and Oil Record Book” in Cap. 413A and Part 5 “Surveys” Division 2 “Surveys in relation to Specified Certificates” in Cap. 413P.
- (5) “Intermediate Survey” and “Annual Survey” are only applicable to Authorization under Cap. 413P
- (6) Plan approval work in relation to plan applicable to the surveys under Cap. 413A

xxxxxx the highlighted parts are new scope of services. The exact date of implementation will be announced vide MDN.

Remarks

- (i) The Scope of Services includes plan approval and survey for the modification of Class III vessels.