

LOCAL VESSELS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Issue of Codes of Practice
under section 45A of the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance (Cap 548)
and under section 44A of the Shipping and Port Control Ordinance (Cap 313)**

Background

The issue of Code of Practice serves to provide practical guidance and standards for the purposes and requirements of the new or amended legislation and to implement the recommendations of the Consultancy Study on the Reduction of Hazards in Mid-Stream Handling Operations report issued 1999. The production of these Codes of Practice are in fact years of joint efforts and inputs by the relevant industry sectors / professionals and the Department.

Issue of Codes of Practice

2(A). Enclosed as listed below are five sets of Codes of Practice in English and Chinese versions that will be issued under section 45A of the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance, Cap 548), (“LVO”) :-

- (1) [Code of Practice for Designation of Competent Persons for Works on Local Vessels \(December 2006 Edition\)](#)
- (2) [Code of Practice for Competent Examiners on Examination of Lifting Appliances and Lifting Gear on Local Vessels \(December 2006 Edition\)](#)
- (3) [Code of Practice on Provision of First Aid Box for Works on Local Vessels \(December 2006 Edition\)](#)
- (4) [Code of Practice on Provision of Safe Means of Access for Works on Local Vessels \(December 2006 Edition\)](#)
- (5) [Code of Practice on Strength Calculation, Test and Examination of Derrick Cranes on Local Vessels \(December 2006 Edition\)](#)

2(B). Enclosed as listed below are four sets of Codes of Practice in English and Chinese versions that will be issued under section 44A of the Shipping and Port Control Ordinance, Cap 313) (“SAPCO”) :-

- (1) [Code of Practice for Designation of Competent Persons for Works on Vessels \(December 2006 Edition\)](#)

- (2) [Code of Practice for Competent Examiners on Examination of Lifting Appliances and Lifting Gear on Vessels \(December 2006 Edition\)](#)
- (3) [Code of Practice on Provision of First Aid Box for Works on Vessels \(December 2006 Edition\)](#)
- (4) [Code of Practice on Provision of Safe Means of Access for Works on Vessels \(December 2006 Edition\)](#)

3. The contents of these Codes have been widely consulted and commented/endorsed by members of PLVAC or its Sub-Committees or Working Groups at previous meetings or circulations to ensure their practicability and acceptability in practice. These final versions as now presented have been fine-tuned or given some editorial or style changes to align with the terms or meanings expressed in the final version of the new or amended legislation, i.e. LVO or SAPCO.

4. Although these Codes in their first edition may not be perfect, we are much confident that they would be at least reasonably practicable as most of the requirements prescribed in these Codes are already in current practice or otherwise the recommendations from coroners' inquests. Beside, the new or amended legislation allow us for making continuous improvement or amendments in future if found necessary after their being brought into practice.

5. The final versions of these Codes, with any amendments or not, served as practical guidance for the industry will be approved and issued by the Director of Marine under relevant section of LVO or SAPCO and with notice to be published in the gazette for them to take effect on the commencement date of the new or amended legislation.

Advice Sought

6. Should you have (or perhaps not have any) some comments on them, please let us know in writing as soon as possible and preferably at least one day before the meeting, so that they could be printed and tabled for discussion at the meeting.

7. This submission is to bring to your attention and support.

*Marine Industrial Safety Section
Marine Department
8 December 2006*