

Shipping Consultative Committee

Proposed Amendments to Merchant Shipping Regulations

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to seek members' views on the proposed amendments to the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations (Cap. 413A) to implement the Revised Annex I of MARPOL 73/78, which will enter into force internationally on 1 January 2007.

Backgrounds

2. The Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 2/2005 dated 3 February 2005 summarized the major new requirements of the Revised Annex I of MARPOL 73/78.

The New Requirements

3. The new provisions that have been incorporated in the Revised MARPOL Annex I include:

- Regulation 22 - Pump-room bottom protection
This regulation applies to oil tankers of 5,000 tonnes deadweight and above constructed on or after 1 January 2007.
- Regulation 23 - Accidental oil outflow performance
This regulation shall apply to oil tankers delivered on or after 1 January 2010, as defined in regulation 1.28.8.
- Regulation 37.4 - Shipboard oil pollution emergency plan
This regulation applies from 1 January 2007 that all oil tankers of 5,000 tons deadweight or more shall have prompt access to computerised, shore-based damage stability and residual structural strength calculation programs.

4. The Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 2/2005 and the attached relevant IMO documents can be downloaded from the Marine Department website (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>).

Implementation of International Requirements

5. Since the provisions of these new requirements under paragraph 3 of this paper will enter into force internationally on 1 January 2007, HKSAR should keep in line with the international standards and implement these provisions. The implementation of these provisions will be done by amending the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations (Cap. 413A).

Consultation

6. Members' comments are invited on our above proposal to implement the international requirements for Hong Kong registered ships.

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division
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