

CLASSIFICATION NEWS

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STATUTORY ALERT Port state control – concentrated inspection campaign

APPLICABILITY Owners and operators of all ships trading to Paris MOU and Tokyo MOU areas

INFORMATION The Paris and Tokyo MOUs will begin a concentrated inspection campaign (CIC) on September 1, 2009. The CIC will focus on lifeboat launching arrangements (SOLAS Chapter III). Port state control officers (PSCOs) will use a questionnaire which will be published on the Paris and Tokyo MOU websites in the first week of August.

It is expected that other PSC MOUs may also join this CIC or carry out a similar exercise.

A press release has been jointly issued by the MOUs, which reads as follows:

The 43 Maritime Authorities of the Paris and the Tokyo Memoranda on Port State Control will begin a joint concentrated inspection campaign with the purpose to ensure compliance with SOLAS Chapter III – Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements with regard to lifeboat launching arrangements. This inspection campaign will be held for 3 months, ending on 30 November 2009.

In practice the concentrated inspection campaign will mean that during every port State control inspection within the Paris and Tokyo MoU regions, the lifeboat launching arrangements, maintenance records and other applicable documentation shall be verified in more detail for compliance with SOLAS Chapter III.

Port State Control Officers (PSCOs) shall use a list of 20 selected items to verify critical areas for the safety of lifeboat launching arrangements, some of which are related to documentation, equipment and familiarisation.

For this purpose PSCOs will apply a questionnaire listing a number of items to cover this concentrated inspection. The questionnaire will be published on the websites of Paris MoU and Tokyo MoU in the first week of August 2009.

When deficiencies are found, actions by the port State may vary from recording a deficiency and instructing the master to rectify within a certain period to detention of the ship until deficiencies have been rectified. In case of detention publication in the monthly list of detentions available on the Paris MoU and Tokyo MoU web pages will take place.

It is expected that the Paris MoU and Tokyo MoU will carry out approximately 10,000 inspections during the CIC. The results of the campaign will be analysed and findings will be presented to the governing bodies of the MoU's for submission to the IMO.

Further information

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