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IMO UNIQUE COMPANY AND REGISTERED OWNER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER SCHEME

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Applicable to: Shipowners and shipmanagers of Singapore ships. This Circular informs the Shipping Community of the resolution adopted by the IMO Maritime Safety Committee 78 (MSC 78) and urges the community to prepare for early implementation.

The IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner Identification Number Scheme was introduced through the adoption by MSC 78, of resolution MSC.160(78), as a measure to enhance maritime safety, security and environmental protection, and to facilitate the prevention of maritime fraud. Its purpose is to assign a permanent number for identification purposes to each company and/or registered owner managing ships of 100 gross tonnage and above engaged on international voyages. The procedure for the implementation of resolution MSC.160(78) was circulated by means of Circular Letter No.2554/Rev.1 dated 7 Feb 2007. The Letter is attached as [Annex A](#). Resolution MSC.160(78) is also attached as [Annex B](#).

2.The IMO unique company and registered owner identification number Scheme is managed without charge by Lloyd's Register – Fairplay (LRF). The Number is a LRF number, allocated at the time of issuance of the documents detailed in para 6 of the Annex to Resolution MSC.160(78) or registration of a ship not required to have these documents. The Number consists of seven digits assigned by LRF. The label begins with the letters "IMO" followed by either "Company" or "Registered Owner", then, followed by the seven digits. "Company" has the same meaning as in SOLAS IX/1. "Registered Owner" is the owner specified on a ship's certificate of registry issued by the Administration.

3.The adoption of resolution MSC.160(78) which introduced the IMO unique company and registered owner identification number scheme has among others led to the amendments to SOLAS regulation XI-1/5 on the continuous synopsis record (resolution MSC.194(80), which should enter into force on 1 Jan 2009. MSC 80 also adopted amendments to the International Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention (ISM Code) (resolution MSC.195(80)) and to the International Code for the Security of Ships and of Port Facilities (International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code) (resolution MSc.196(80)) introducing references to the company and registered owner identification number.

4. Following these amendments, the IMO unique company and registered owner identification number would have to be inserted on documents such as Document of Compliance (DOC), Safety Management Certificate (SMC), Interim Document of Compliance and Interim Safety Management Certificate required by the International Safety Management Code, Continuous Synopsis Record (CSR) and International (Interim) Ship Security Certificate required by SOLAS chapter XI-1, regulation 5 and Part A, respectively.

5. Owners and managers of Singapore ships are urged to make application for the IMO unique company and registered owner identification number from LRF at an early convenient date. The procedures for obtaining company and registered owner numbers are attached as [Annex 1](#) and [2](#) of Circular Letter No.2554/Rev.1.

6. A separate Shipping Circular will be promulgated shortly on the necessary arrangement to be taken by shipowners and managers in applying for CSR certificate in order to include the IMO unique company and registered owner identification number on the certificate.

[Annex A](#)

[Annex B](#)

[Annex 1](#)

[Annex 2](#)

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