Subject:

PSC Focused Inspection Program to be conducted by AMSA



No.: 388

Date: 25 December 2000

To Ship Owners and Ship Management Companies concerned

This is to bring to your attention that the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) has announced the focused inspection regime in addition to their usual Port State Control (PSC) activities.

According to the Marine Notice attached hereto, PSC inspections will be carried out with focus on specific area of a vessel's operation for a period of two years.

The program will change every four months allowing six areas to be addressed over the period. The areas at the first stage, which run to 31 March 2001, are a vessel's navigation arrangements relevant to collision avoidance.

Noting that all eligible ships entering Australian ports will be targeted for the above inspection during the foregoing period, please pay due attention to routine maintenance of the relevant equipment and operation of the crew

(Note) AMSA Marine Notice web site: http://www.amsa.gov.au/amsa/mn/mn_index.htm

Encl. AMSA Marine Notice 13/2000





13/2000

PORT STATE CONTROL - FOCUSED INSPECTION REGIME

This notice is issued to draw attention to the implementation of an enhanced inspection program to be conducted by AMSA, both within the current port State control frame work and during random visits. The program focuses on specific areas of a vessel's operation, which have been identified by AMSA as requiring special attention.

It is planned that the program will run for two years commencing in December 2000. The program will change every four months allowing six areas to be addressed over a two-year period. It should be noted that this focus on specific areas will not detract from the coverage of AMSA's normal port State control activities.

In order to ensure adequate coverage, it is also planned that inspections concentrating on the selected area of interest alone will be conducted in addition to AMSA's programmed port State control inspections. These will take the form of random visits at a time to be determined by AMSA offices.

Due to recent incidents related to navigation and the keeping of a proper lookout, the first area to be addressed by the focused inspection program will be Collision Avoidance — see and be seen. This will examine areas of a vessel's navigational arrangements relevant to collision avoidance including:

- i. Bridge visibility, with particular emphasis on the effect of cargo on visibility;
- ii. The operation of radars; and
- iii. Navigation lights, both as a function of their serviceability and effectiveness as well as the effect of cargo on their visibility.

Where deficiencies are noted during the focused inspection, the ship will be required to take appropriate rectification action and may be detained under the Navigation Act until such stage, as rectification action has been completed.

This first stage of the program will start on 1 December 2000 and run to 31 March 2001.

C. Davidson
Chief Executive Officer
November 2000

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Term of Validity: Temporary

