

政府總部
經濟發展及勞工局
香港下亞厘畢道
中區政府合署



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
LABOUR BUREAU
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT**

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本函檔號 Our Ref: MA 70/20 Pt. 7

來函檔號 Your Ref:

12 July 2005

Mr. Andy LAU
Clerk to Bills Committee
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong
(Fax: 2869 6794)

Dear Mr. Lau,

**Administration's response to issues raised
at the Meeting of the Bills Committee on Merchant Shipping
(Local Vessels and Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2005
held on 28 June 2005**

We set out below the Administration's response to a number of issues raised at the last Bills Committee meeting.

Number of registered professional engineers (RPE)

2. At the meeting, members of the Bills Committee asked for the number of RPEs qualified for authorization by the Director of Marine (D of M) under section 7 of the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance (Ordinance). There are about 110 RPEs in the Marine and Naval Architecture discipline under the Engineers Registration Board. They are qualified for obtaining D of M's authorization under section 7 of the Ordinance.

Imposition of conditions of authorization/recognition by D of M

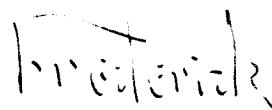
3. In view of Members' concern on how D of M might exercise the powers to authorize RPEs under section 7 of the Ordinance and to recognize government authorities under the proposed new section 7A, we propose to set out in these two sections the relevant factors to be considered by D of M (such as competency and experience) in attaching conditions to the authorization/recognition. The relevant CSAs are under preparation and will be provided to Members for consideration when ready.

Marine accidents involving third party in the past five years

4. In response to the letter from Hon Wong Yung-kan of 23 June 2005, the number of accidents and casualties of marine accidents involving death or injuries of persons are set out at **Annex**.

5. Since the operators of vessels to which the compulsory third party risk insurance requirement will apply have no obligation to provide the Administration with information on matters relating to claims and compensation, we do not possess such information.

Yours sincerely,



(Frederick YU)

for Secretary for Economic Development and Labour

Encl.

c.c.

D of J

(Attn: Ms Marie Siu)

Fax: 2845 2215

(Attn: Ms Amy Chan)

Fax: 2869 1302

D of M

(Attn: Mr Y N Chan)

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Marine Accident involving deaths or injuries of persons

Number of accidents and casualties in year 2000

Type of Local Vessel	No. of accidents	Casualties ¹	
		Reported deaths	Reported injuries
Barge	2	0	3
Ferry	1	0	13
Fishing Vessel	6	0	8
Cargo Vessel	3	0	3
Government Vessel	2	0	4
Motor Launch	3	0	4
Passenger Ship	1	0	9
Pleasure Vessel	3	1	2
Tanker	0	0	0
Tug	2	0	10
Others	5	0	11
Total²:	28	1	67

¹ The casualty figures in this Annex include the number of deaths/injuries of employees and the insured person. Since the insured person is not a third party and liability in respect of employees of the insured person is excluded from third party risks insurance, the reported number may be larger than the number of victims whom may be protected by third party risks insurance.

² In this Annex, the respective figures in each row of the tables may not add up to the total number as the same accident/casualty may be counted more than once if two or more types of vessels are involved in an accident and caused casualty.

Number of accidents and casualties in year 2001

Type of Local Vessel	No. of accidents	Casualties	
		Reported deaths	Reported injuries
Barge	1	0	4
Ferry	0	0	0
Fishing Vessel	3	1	3
Cargo Vessel	3	1	4
Government Vessel	1	0	2
Motor Launch	0	0	0
Passenger Ship	1	1	0
Pleasure Vessel	8	0	17
Tanker	0	0	0
Tug	1	0	2
Others	3	0	6
Total:	21	3	38

Number of accidents and casualties in year 2002

Type of Local Vessel	No. of accidents	Casualties	
		Reported deaths	Reported injuries
Barge	2	0	2
Ferry	0	0	0
Fishing Vessel	4	1	3
Cargo Vessel	1	0	1
Government Vessel	4	0	5
Motor Launch	0	0	0
Passenger Ship	0	0	0
Pleasure Vessel	4	4	12
Tanker	0	0	0
Tug	2	0	2
Others	4	6	2
Total:	21	11	27

Number of accidents and casualties in year 2003

Type of Local Vessel	No. of accidents	Casualties	
		Reported deaths	Reported injuries
Barge	4	0	4
Ferry	3	0	16
Fishing Vessel	2	0	5
Cargo Vessel	4	0	18
Government Vessel	1	0	5
Motor Launch	5	0	11
Passenger Ship	0	0	0
Pleasure Vessel	4	0	6
Tanker	0	0	0
Tug	2	0	4
Others	1	1	0
Total:	26	1	69

Number of accidents and casualties in year 2004

Type of Local Vessel	No. of accidents	Casualties	
		Reported deaths	Reported injuries
Barge	0	0	0
Ferry	2	0	10
Fishing Vessel	8	1	10
Cargo Vessel	1	0	1
Government Vessel	0	0	0
Motor Launch	1	0	1
Passenger Ship	0	0	0
Pleasure Vessel	3	0	3
Tanker	0	0	0
Tug	0	0	0
Others	1	0	2
Total:	16	1	27