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BY E-MAIL

24 September 2008

Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators of Hong Kong registered ships

Dear Sir,

Shipboard LRIT Equipment Conformance Testing

SOLAS regulation V-19-1/6 specifies that shipboard LRIT equipment should be of a type approved by the Administration. However, currently no such approved LRIT equipment is available on the market. As an interim measure, shipboard LRIT equipment after passing a conformance testing conducted by an authorized Application Service Provider (ASP) could be considered as an approved type in accordance with the [IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1257](#), *Guidance on the Survey and Certification of Compliance of Ships with the Requirement to Transmit LRIT Information*.

Hong Kong registered ships will use the China National Data Centre in the management of LRIT data. The China Transportation & Telecommunication Centre will be the recognized APS for the China National Data Centre. Other than the **China Transportation & Telecommunication Centre**, the following two (2) companies have been appointed as authorized ASPs to conduct conformance tests of shipboard LRIT equipment on Hong Kong registered ships for compliance:

- a) **Pole Star Space Applications Limited**
Suite 301-303, Whiteleys Centre
Queensway, London W2 4YN
UK

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7313 7400

Fax: +44 (0) 20 7313 7401

Email: shipinfo@lrit.com

Web: <http://www.lrit.com>

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Our Mission is to Promote Excellence in Marine Services

b) Transas Telematics Limited

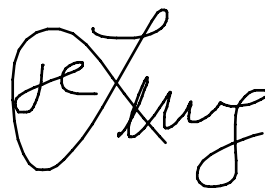
4 Compass Point
Ensign Way, Hamble
Southampton SO31 4AR
UK

Tel: +44 (0) 23 8045 8544
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Email: lrit@transastelematics.com
Web: <http://www.transas.com/telematics>

We will soon issue Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note to provide guidance for Hong Kong registered ships on the shipboard LRIT equipment conformance testing and the contact details of the China Transportation & Telecommunication Centre.

Shipowners of Hong Kong registered ships are advised to take early action by consulting your equipment manufacturers and/or one of the authorized testing ASPs to achieve compliance.

Yours sincerely,



(H.K. Leung)

Chief, Marine Accident Investigation & Shipping Security Policy
for Director of Marine