



Press release



30 April 2009

PARIS AND TOKYO MOU'S ON PORT STATE CONTROL HOLD JOINT CONCENTRATED INSPECTION CAMPAIGN ON LIFEBOAT LAUNCHING ARRANGEMENTS – SOLAS Ch. III. BEGINNING 1 SEPTEMBER 2009.

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.

Contact

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Notes to editors:

Paris MOU	Tokyo MOU
<p>Regional Port State Control was initiated in 1982 when fourteen European countries agreed to coordinate their port State inspection effort under a voluntary agreement known as the Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Paris MOU). Current membership includes 27 countries. The European Commission, although not a signatory to the Paris MOU, is also a member of the Committee.</p> <p>Inspection reports are recorded on a central database SIRENaC located in St Malo - France, available for search and daily updating by MoU member countries. Inspection results can be viewed on the Paris MoU public website and are also provided to the Equasis public database.</p> <p>The Secretariat of the MoU is provided by the Netherlands Ministry of Transport, Public works and Water Management and located in The Hague.</p>	<p>The Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control in the Asia-Pacific Region, known as the Tokyo MOU, was signed among eighteen maritime Authorities in the region on 1 December 1993 and came into operation on 1 April 1994. Currently, the Memorandum has 18 full members, namely: Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Fiji, Hong Kong (China), Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, Vanuatu and Vietnam.</p> <p>The Secretariat of the Memorandum is located in Tokyo, Japan. The PSC database system, the Asia-Pacific Computerized Information System (APCIS), was established. The APCIS center is located in Moscow, under the auspices of the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation.</p>
<p>Port State Control is a check on visiting foreign ships to see that they comply with international rules on safety, pollution prevention and seafarers living and working conditions. It is a means of enforcing compliance where the owner and flag State have failed in their responsibility to implement or ensure compliance. The port State can require defects to be put right, and detain the ship for this purpose if necessary. It is therefore also a port State's defence against visiting substandard shipping.</p>	