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MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT
(CHAPTER 179)

MERCHANT SHIPPING (CREW ACCOMMODATION)
(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2014

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 100 of the Merchant Shipping Act, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, with the approval of the Minister for Transport, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 and shall come into operation on 1st April 2014.

Amendment of regulation 2

2. Regulation 2 of the Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation) Regulations (Rg 29) (referred to in these Regulations as the principal Regulations) is amended —

(a) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “existing ship”, the following definition:

““new MLC ship” means a ship to which the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) Act 2014 (Act 6 of 2014) applies and of which the keel is laid, or which is at a similar stage of construction, on or after 20th August 2013;”;

(b) by inserting, immediately after the words “1st December 1997” in the definition of “new ship”, the words “and includes all new MLC ships”;

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- (c) by inserting, immediately after the word “Act” in the definition of “officer”, the words “or a seafarer’s employment agreement, as the case may be”;
 - (d) by inserting, immediately after the word “Act” in the definition of “petty officer”, the words “or a seafarer’s employment agreement, as the case may be”; and
 - (e) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “special limit voyage”, the following definition:

““special purpose ship” means a ship constructed in accordance with the Code of Safety for Special Purpose Ships adopted by the International Maritime Organization by resolution A 534 (XIII) as amended from time to time;”.

Amendment of regulation 3

3. Regulation 3 of the principal Regulations is amended —

- (a) by deleting sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph (1) and substituting the following sub-paragraph:
 - “(c) shall not apply to —
 - (i) a ship of less than 500 tons other than a new MLC ship;
 - (ii) a ship primarily propelled by sail but having auxiliary engines, other than a new MLC ship;
 - (iii) a ship engaged in fishing or similar pursuits;
 - (iv) a tug other than a tug that is a new MLC ship; or
 - (v) a ship, exclusively engaged on special limit voyages, other than a new MLC ship.”; and
- (b) by deleting paragraphs (2) and (3) and substituting the following paragraphs:

“(2) Regulations 7(5) and 13(4B) and (12) shall not apply to a new MLC ship of less than 200 tons.

(3) The requirements for minimum floor areas in regulation 10(5A), (5C), (5D), (5E) and (5H) shall not apply to a new MLC ship of less than 200 tons.

(4) The Director may exempt any ship from any provision of these Regulations either unconditionally or subject to such conditions as he thinks fit if he is satisfied that —

- (a) compliance with that provision is either impracticable or unreasonable in respect of that ship; and
- (b) the health and safety of crew members on that ship will be protected.”.

Amendment of regulation 5

4. Regulation 5 of the principal Regulations is amended —

(a) by deleting paragraph (4) and substituting the following paragraph:

“(4) The crew accommodation certificate issued under paragraph (3) —

- (a) to a ship that is not a new MLC ship shall be in Form 1 set out in the Schedule; and
- (b) to a new MLC ship shall be in Form 2 set out in the Schedule.”; and

(b) by deleting paragraph (6) and substituting the following paragraph:

“(6) The exemption certificate for crew accommodation issued under paragraph (5) —

- (a) to a ship that is not a new MLC ship shall be in Form 3 set out in the Schedule; and
- (b) to a new MLC ship shall be in Form 4 set out in the Schedule.”.

Amendment of regulation 6**5.** Regulation 6 of the principal Regulations is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the words “effluvia from other spaces” in paragraph (1), the words “and for new MLC ships shall further be in accordance with the requirements of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) Act 2014 and shall be guided by any code of practice issued or approved under section 44 of that Act”;
- (b) by inserting, immediately after paragraph (1), the following paragraph:

“(1A) In a new MLC ship, the materials used to construct internal bulkheads, panelling and sheeting, floors and joints shall be suitable and conducive to ensuring a healthy environment for the seafarers.”; and
- (c) by inserting, immediately after the word “clean” in paragraph (11), the words “and which in a new MLC ship shall be a non-slip surface”.

Amendment of regulation 7**6.** Regulation 7 of the principal Regulations is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the word “Ships” in paragraph (3), the words “other than new MLC ships”;
- (b) by inserting, immediately after the words “northern or southern hemispheres, ships” in paragraph (4), the words “other than new MLC ships”; and
- (c) by deleting paragraph (5) and substituting the following paragraphs:

“(5) All new MLC ships, except for ships normally employed in the cold waters of the northern or southern hemispheres, shall be equipped with air-conditioning in all sleeping rooms, separate radio rooms and centralised machinery rooms.

(6) Power for the operation of the aids to the ventilation required by paragraphs (3), (4) and (5) shall,

when practicable, be available at all times when the crew is living or working on board and when conditions so require.

(7) Air-conditioning systems provided in all new MLC ships shall be controlled so as to maintain the air in a satisfactory condition and to ensure a sufficiency of air movement in all conditions of weather and climate and shall not produce excessive noise or vibration.”.

Amendment of regulation 8

7. Regulation 8(3) of the principal Regulations is amended by inserting, immediately after the word “electricity”, the words “, except that in new MLC ships heating shall not be by means of steam in any crew accommodation area”.

Amendment of regulation 10

8. Regulation 10 of the principal Regulations is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the words “passenger ships” in paragraph (3), the words “and new MLC ships which are special purpose ships”;
- (b) by deleting the word “The” in paragraph (4) and substituting the words “In a ship other than a new MLC ship, the”;
- (c) by deleting the words “may be” in paragraph (4) and substituting the words “shall be”;
- (d) by inserting, immediately after the words “In the case of ships” in paragraph (5), the words “other than new MLC ships”;
- (e) by inserting, immediately after paragraph (5), the following paragraphs:

“(5A) In new MLC ships, the floor area of single berth sleeping rooms shall not be less than —

- (a) 4.5 m² for a ship of less than 3,000 tons;