



Insurance: Amendment to the Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims (LLMC)

Notice to all shipowners, operators, managers, masters and insurers of sea going vessels over 300 GT

This MIN expires 30 November 2017

Summary

The purpose of this MIN is to notify interested parties of the publication of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 (Amendment) Order 2016, which gives effect to the internationally agreed increases to the Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Convention 1996, and introduces an ambulatory reference into the Merchant Shipping Act in order to increase these limits in line with future decisions made by the IMO.

1. Background

- 1.1 On 12th April 2012 the International Maritime Organization (IMO) agreed to increase the limits of liability set out in the Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims convention (LLMC 96) by 51%.
- 1.2 The increases to the limits of liability reflect the changes in monetary values (GDP inflation rates) that have taken place between 1996, when the limitations to liability were first introduced, and 2012 when the increases were agreed and adopted.

2. Summary of changes

- 2.1 The Merchant Shipping Act 1995 (Amendment) Order 2016 (“the Order”) enters into force on the 30 November 2016 and amends Schedule 7 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 (“the Act”) to give effect in the UK to increases in the limits of liability for ship-owners and salvors for certain maritime claims.
- 2.2 The Order also makes use of the enabling power introduced by the Deregulation Act 2015 to include an ambulatory reference in the Act, which will allow any future changes to the



limits of liability agreed to by the IMO to take effect in UK law without the need for further legislative or regulatory provisions.

2.3 The changes to the limits of liability made by the Order do not have retrospective effect.

2.4 The Order also provides the Secretary of State with discretionary powers when issuing certificates to non-UK flagged vessels attesting that ship owners have insurance in place to cover their obligations under the Bunkers Convention

More Information

Technical Support Team (DMSS)
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Bay 2/25
Spring Place
105 Commercial Road
Southampton
SO15 1EG

Tel : +44 (0) 203 8172240
e-mail: CLCEnquiries@mcga.gov.uk

Website Address: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/maritime-and-coastguard-agency

General Inquiries: infoline@mcga.gov.uk

File Ref: MS 201/005/001

Published: December 2017
Please note that all addresses and
telephone numbers are correct at time of publishing

© Crown Copyright 2016

Safer Lives, Safer Ships, Cleaner Seas

