

CCS Circular

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To: CCS Surveyors、 Ship-owners/Operators

NOTICE ABOUT TRANSMITTING CIRCULAR MMC-217 ISSUED BY PANAMA

——Ship to Ship Transfer(STS) Operations Plan

The merchant marine circular MMC-217 about Ship to Ship Transfer (STS) Operations Plan issued by Panama Maritime Authority in December,2010. This circular issued to Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (ROs).

The purpose of this circular is to inform about the Resolution MEPC 186(59), which will be coming into force on 1st January 2011, and amends MARPOL 73/78 Annex I, adding a new chapter 8. The regulation 41 of this new chapter states that all oil tankers involved in STS operations shall carry on board a Plan prescribing how to conduct STS operations (STS operations Plan) not later than the date of the first annual, intermediate or renewal survey of the ship to be carried out on or after 1 January 2011. Each oil tanker's STS operations Plan shall be approved by Panama Maritime Authority.

Panama Maritime Authority authorizes our society, on behalf of the Republic of Panama, to carry out the revision of the STS operations Plan as well as its corresponding approvals.

Consequently, our society, at the moment to carry out the verification of the STS operations Plan, shall make sure that such Plan is developed taking into account the information contained in the best practice guidelines for STS operations identified by the Organizations (IMO's "Manual on Oil Pollution, Section I, Prevention" as amended, and the ICS and OCIMF "Ship-to-ship Transfer Guide, Petroleum", fourth edition, 2005).

Appendix:

- a) Panama Merchant Marine Circular MMC-217

Please contact Classed Ship in Service Dept. of the Headquarters in case of any unclarity during the implementation of this Circular.