

海事處
船舶事務科
香港統一碼頭道三十八號
海港政府大樓，二十四樓
香港郵箱4155號
電傳 64533 MARHQ HX
傳真 (852) 25450556

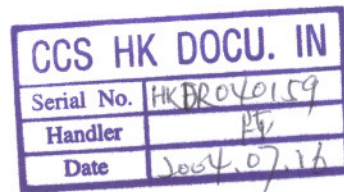


MARINE DEPARTMENT
Shipping Division
Harbour Building, 24th floor,
38 Pier Road,
G.P.O. Box 4155
Hong Kong
Telex No. 64533 ANSWERBACK
MARHQ HX
Fax No. (852) 25450556

本署檔號 OUR REF. : SD/S 104/36/9
電話 TEL. : 2852 4503
傳真 FAX. : 2545 0556

12 July 2004

China Classification Society
Room 2904-05, West Tower,
Shun Tak Centre,
168-200 Connaught Road, Central,
H.K.



Dear Sirs,

Ship Security Alert System (SSAS)

We noticed from recent functional tests of the SSAS transmitting alert messages to the Hong Kong Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (MRCC) that contents of the transmission could not meet the requirements as stipulated in IMO MSC. 147 (77).

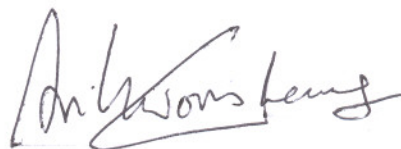
MSC.147(77) stipulated that SSAS installed before 1 July 2004 is allowed to meet performance standard in accordance with MSC.136(76). However, you are advised that this Administration will only accept transmission contents as specified in IMO Resolution MSC.147(77) for Hong Kong flag ships irrespective of their dates of installation.

In essence, the transmission of SSAS according to MSC.147(77) should include:-

- A unique code/identifier
- The ship identity
- Current vessel position associated with a date and time

As a Recognized Security Organization of this Administration, you are invited to ensure alert signals from SSAS onboard the Hong Kong flag ships are compiled with IMO MSC.147(77). For the cases that ships installed SSAS before 1 July 2004 that transmission content might not meet the requirements of MSC. 147(77), you may need to contact this Office for special consideration.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S.W. Cheung', with a stylized, cursive script.

(S.W. Cheung)

Senior Surveyor/Security & Quality Assurance
for Director of Marine

20-JUL-2004 12:17 FROM HK MD Shipping Division

TO 28270490

P.01

海事處

航運政策科

香港統一碼頭道38號

海港政府大樓24樓

**MARINE DEPARTMENT**

Multi-lateral Policy Division

24/F, Harbour Building

38 Pier Road,

Hong Kong

電傳 64553 MARHQ HX

傳真 (852) 2544 9241

(852) 2545 0556 (直接)

Telex No. 64553 MARHQ HX

Fax No. (852) 2544 9241

(852) 2545 0556 (Direct)

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**To** : China Classification Society**From** : Director of Marine**Attn.** : Mr. Xie Jinhai**Tel. No.** : 2852 4503**Fax** : 28582629**Date** : 20 July 2004**Your Ref.** :**Our Ref.** : SD/S 104/36/9**No. of Sheets (Incl. This One)** : One (1)**Please Telephone or Fax Immediately If You Do Not Receive Legible Copies or All Pages**

Dear Sir,

Ship Security Alert System - SAILOR H3000M SSA Mini-C

I note that the subject ship security alert system (SSAS) has been approved by your society to meet the MSC.136(76) and MSC.147(77) requirements, your Certificate of Type Approval for Marine Product HBT04431015 refers.

We understand that vessels under Sinotrans Shipping Limited management have installed this type of SSAS and the auditor from CCS undertaking ship security verification work on one of their vessel M.V. "GREAT AMBITION" recommended to test the equipment monthly in accordance with the maker procedure but better not send the test message to the Marine Emergency and Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (MRCC) of Hong Kong Marine Department.

It has come to our attention that this equipment under the test mode will send the test message to all parties in the programmed list and MRCC will also be one of the recipient. Considering the fleet of Hong Kong registered ships comprises of over 740 ocean going vessels that need to install SSAS and if every piece of SSAS is tested monthly, the burden on MRCC reception facilities will be extremely heavy. Moreover, genuine alert message may be missed if large amount of test messages are

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Page 2 of 2

Received 2004/7/20 PM 12:08:57 - +852 2581 1045

Subject: [SOWK] 2 pages

User: SOWK

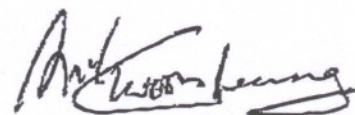
20-JUL-2004 12:18 FROM HK MD Shipping Division

TO 282/0490

P.02

Considering the above problem, the design of SAILOR H3000M SSA Mini-C appears to have a deficiency. I would therefore suggest you to discuss with the manufacturer to modify the equipment so that the test message could be sent to the selected parties, i.e. MRCC is not included in the test mode. Such deficiency may occur in other brands of SSAS approved by your Society and grateful if you would review the situation and seek co-operation from the concerned manufacturers to rectify such design deficiency.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any query in respect of this matter.



(S.W. Cheung)

Senior Surveyor/Security & Quality Assurance
for Director of Marine

c.c. Sinotrans Shipping Limited (Attn. : Capt. W.K. So) [Fax : 2827 0490]

CSW/-

(SSASQA 08545 CCS I-DOC)

海事處

船舶事務科

香港統一碼頭道38號

海港政府大樓24樓



MARINE DEPARTMENT

Shipping Division

24/F, Harbour Building

38 Pier Road,

Hong Kong

電傳 64553 MARHQ HX

傳真 (852) 2544 9241

(852) 2545 0556 (直接)

Telex No. 64553 MARHQ HX

Fax No. (852) 2544 9241

(852) 2545 0556 (Direct)

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

To : Distribution List

From : Director of Marine

Attn. :

Fax :

Your Ref. :

CCS HK FAX IN	
Serial No.	HKFR 010568
Handler	fy
Date	2004.08.23

Tel. No. : (852) 2852 4503

Date : 23 August 2004

Our Ref. : SD/S 104/36/7 (4)

No. of Sheets (Incl. This One) : 2

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Dear Sirs,

Test of Ship Security Alert System (SSAS)

I refer to a recent case of testing the SSAS on board a Hong Kong flag ships.

A Hong Kong flag ship transmitted an SSAS message to Hong Kong Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (HKMRCC) :-

(1) Without prior arrangement made with Senior Surveyor, Security and Quality Assurance Section as guided by Hong Kong Shipping Information Note No. 11/2004

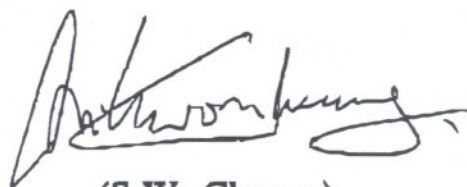
(2) There was no indication in the message that the alert was a test.

We immediately contacted the Company Security Officer (CSO) by his 24 hours contact to collect information of the ship. The CSO informed us that the attending surveyor instructed the ship to test the SSAS with a view to issuing the ISSC.

An unscheduled security alert means a ship is under severe security threat or attack. We would like to advise you that this Administration treats every SSAS alarm very seriously when there is no prior arrangement and the message has no test indication.

We would therefore suggest that when SSAS is requested by RSO to be tested, the attending surveyor must ensure that prior arrangement has been properly made with Senior Surveyor/Security & Quality Assurance Section so that inconvenience would not be caused to this Department.

Yours faithfully,



(S.W. Cheung)

Senior Surveyor/ Security & Quality Assurance
for Director of Marine

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