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To: MARINE COMMITTEE

MC(08)62

**Copy: All Full and Associate Members (for information)
Radio & Nautical Sub-Committee**

EMERGENCY TOWING PROCEDURE – EXAMPLE

Action required: Members are invited to note an example of an Emergency Towing Procedure document as drafted by JSA and to distribute it as required.

The Marine Committee has discussed the new requirement for an emergency towing procedure to be held on board ships once amendments to SOLAS II-1 enter into force. The new regulation 3-4 has the following application:

1. All passenger ships, not later than 1 Jan 2010;
2. Cargo ships constructed on or after 1 Jan 2010;
3. Cargo ships constructed before 1 Jan 2010, not later than 1 Jan 2012

An MSC circular provides relevant guidance for this requirement (MSC.1/Circ.1255) "Guidelines for Owners/Operators on Preparing Emergency Towing Procedures".

At the recent Tripartite meeting in Beijing the Japanese Shipowners' Association (JSA) gave a presentation on a model version of an emergency towing procedure, in this case for a Panamax Bulk Carrier. The example gives a very good idea of what will be expected once the regulation enters into force and JSA have agreed that the attached material can be distributed to the ICS membership. Owners may be well advised to put an equivalent version in place well before it becomes a regulatory requirement and to practice towing preparations.

The Powerpoint presentation used by JSA at the Tripartite meeting is also attached for background information.

Any comments should be addressed to the undersigned.

P B Hinchliffe
Marine Director