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MSC.1/Circ.738/Rev.1
7 July 2006

GUIDELINES FOR DYNAMIC POSITIONING SYSTEM (DP) OPERATOR TRAINING

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-sixth session (28 May to 6 June 1996), considered the issue of training of dynamic positioning system (DP) operators in relation to paragraph 4.12 of the 1989 MODU Code and, noted that the International Marine Contractors' Association (IMCA) had prepared a publication on the "Training and Experience of Key DP Personnel (Issue 1/Rev.1)" which could be used as a guideline for the training of DP operators.

2 The Committee, recalling the obligations contained in regulation I/14 of the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, and noting the importance of adequate training of DP operators and the recommendation of the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment, at its thirty-ninth session (22 to 26 January 1996), invited Member Governments to bring the aforementioned guidelines to the attention of the bodies concerned and apply them to the training of key DP personnel employed on dynamically positioned vessels defined in paragraph 1.3.1 of the annex to MSC/Circ.645.

3 The Committee also agreed to make a reference to the Guidelines in the footnote to section 4.12 of the 1989 MODU Code.

4 The Committee, at its eighty-first session (10 to 19 May 2006), noted information by IMCA that the Guidelines had been updated to ensure conformance with current best practice and reissued as IMCA M 117 Rev.1. The Committee also noted that there have been no changes to the core content of the Guidelines.

5 The Committee noted that the above-mentioned IMCA publication, which identifies training programmes, levels of competency and experience for the safe operation of DP vessels, is available from:

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5 Lower Belgrave Street
London SW1W 0NR
United Kingdom

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E-mail: imca@imca-int.com
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6 The Committee invited IMCA to keep IMO informed of future amendments to the IMCA guidelines, as appropriate.