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SAFE SYSTEMS OF WORK

The ISM Code requires that the Company's safety management system should 'ensure that applicable codes, guidelines and standards recommended by the Administration are taken into account'. The COSWP is one such 'applicable code' and an ISM audit may consider how the guidance it contains has been implemented.

The ISM Code requires that the safety management objectives of the Company should, assess all identified risks to its ships, personnel and the environment and establish appropriate safeguards. This Code will assist in identifying risks and establishing safe practices to safeguard against them.

The Code of Safe Working Practices is concerned with improving health and safety on board ship. Many regulations require that a relevant part of the code should be consulted and the principles and guidance applied.

The COSWP is a best practice guidance for improving health and safety on board ship. The COSWP provides guidance on safe working practices for many situations that commonly arise on ships, and the basic principles can be applied to many other work situations on board. Ship staff shall carry operations in accordance with applicable recommendations in this publication.

The Code is addressed to everyone on a ship regardless of rank or rating, and to those ashore responsible for safety, because the recommendations can be effective only if they are understood by all and if everyone cooperates in their implementation. Those not actually engaged in a job in hand should be aware of what is being done, so that they may avoid putting themselves at risk or causing risk to others by impeding or needlessly interfering with the conduct of their work.

Quoting a few examples, the Code of Safe Working Practices should be followed for Work at height, Work in machinery and power systems like boilers, unmanned machinery spaces etc.