

Joint NK- IRS 'IHM Expert Training held



ClassNK and IRS in a joint Initiative held "IHM Expert" Training Programme at Bhavnagar, Gujarat during 4th – 6th August 2013. The two Class Societies jointly intend to build up resources to meet the challenges of environment protection by training IHM experts. Ship recycling yards providing one stop service for green ship recycling will greatly benefit by preparing the IHM by their own sponsored IHM experts to provide a "Ship Recycling Plan".

An IHM Expert trained and Certified by NKCS (ClassNK Consulting Service Co., Ltd) and IRS will be enable to prepare Inventory

of Hazardous Material (IHM) of ship which can be described as specific information on the actual Hazardous Material present on board. And IHM prepared by IHM Experts will be easily accepted by the Class of the ship for approval.

The Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 (Ship Recycling Convention) was adopted in May 2009. After the convention enters into force, development and maintenance of an Inventory of Hazardous Materials is required for all the ships over 500GT. For both the Existing Ships and New Ships, the development of the Inventory (IHM) will be a significant task.

According to the new rules, the installation or use of certain hazardous materials on ships will be prohibited or restricted. These hazardous materials include asbestos, ozone-depleting substances, PCBs, PFOS, and anti-fouling compounds

and systems. Each new European ship (or a ship flying a flag of the third country calling at EU port or anchorage) will be required to have on board an inventory of hazardous materials verified by the relevant administration or authority and specifying the location and approximate quantities of those materials.

In short ship owners intending to operate in European Waters will need to get IHM for such ships owned by them much earlier than that envisaged by Hong Kong Convention.

Upon entry into force of the IMO Hong Kong Convention, ships to be sent for recycling will be required to carry an inventory of hazardous materials (IHM), which will be specific to each ship. All existing ships will require an IHM of the vessel approved by Ship's Class within 5 years of HKC coming in force.

The programme was conducted by trainers were Mr. Henning Gramann, MD GSR Services and founding board member, International Ship Recycling Association (ISRA), and Mr. Akira Aoyagi, Chief Advisor, Board Member of International Hazmat Association. A certificate of successful completion was handed over to candidates passing the exam, and certificate of participation to the other participants. ■

