

Hong Kong's first two locally licensed LNG-diesel dual-fuel tugs commissioned (with photos)

Marine Department representatives today (July 25) attended the ceremony held by the Hongkong Salvage & Towage Services Limited to celebrate the commissioning of the first two locally licensed LNG (liquefied natural gas) diesel dual-fuel tugs in Hong Kong.

Addressing the celebration ceremony, Deputy Director of Marine Mr Shi Qiang said, "The Government is committed to transforming the city into a green port and promoting the use of more environmentally friendly new fuels with less or zero-carbon emissions to replace marine petroleum fuels commonly used by vessels nowadays. The commissioning of the first two locally licensed tugs equipped with dual-fuel engine systems marks a new milestone that helps encourage more local vessels to use new fuels and move towards the International Maritime Organization's target of reaching net-zero greenhouse gas emissions from international shipping by or around 2050. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with the industry to jointly promote and achieve the goal of green and sustainable development in the shipping industry."

With a view to supporting the development needs and enhancing the long-term competitiveness of the marine industry, the Government promulgated the Action Plan on Maritime and Port Development Strategy in December 2023, outlining four directions and 10 strategies, including propelling the development of a green port towards a zero-carbon target by studying the feasibility of the provision of green fuel bunkering for local vessels and ocean-going vessels, and promulgating an action plan for Hong Kong's development into a green maritime fuel-bunkering centre this year. The plan is expected to be published this year. The Government has also introduced the Shipping Legislation (Use of Fuels and Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2024 into the Legislative Council this month to cater for the safe use of new fuels such as LNG by vessels.

Each of the two newly commissioned tugs, LNG Sentinel I and LNG Sentinel II, has an overall length of 42 metres, a beam of 16m, a gross tonnage of 1 275, two electric motor-driven azimuth thrusters with an aggregate power of 6 000 kilowatts and a maximum speed of 14 knots.



Red flag hoisted at Deep Water Bay Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (July 25) that due to big waves, the red flag has been hoisted at Deep Water Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at the beach.

Labour Department investigates fatal work accident in Kwai Chung

The Labour Department (LD) is investigating a fatal work accident that happened in Kwai Chung this morning (July 25), in which a man died.

The LD immediately deployed staff to the scene upon receiving a report of the accident, and is now conducting an investigation to look into its cause.

Joint enforcement operation with law enforcement agencies taken against suspected touting activities at LCSD venues

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), the Immigration Department (ImmD) and the Police conducted a joint operation on July 13 at tennis courts in Wan Chai District to combat touting activities at recreation and sports venues, and other illegal activities. During the operation, three suspected scalpers were arrested at the tennis courts in Victoria Park. One of them was a foreign domestic helper suspected to have breached her condition of stay by transferring tennis court user permits for reward. The ImmD also arrested a person suspected of using and possessing another person's Hong Kong identity card (HKID) without reasonable excuse. The ImmD is conducting follow-up investigations of immigration offences which involved the aforesaid suspects, and will not rule out the possibility of further arrests of other persons involved.

In addition, during the joint operation on July 13 at the tennis courts in Victoria Park, and the Hong Kong Tennis Centre, there were four cases in which the hirers were found to have breached the LCSD's "Conditions of Use of Recreation and Sports Facilities". The LCSD has punished the hirers in the above cases in accordance with existing penalties. In one case, a user used an HKID card of another person for check-in at the facility concerned and the LCSD has suspended for 360 days the booking rights of the original hirer who has illegally lent his HKID card to another person for check-in at sports facilities.

The LCSD has long been concerned about the fair use of recreation and sports facilities, and has adopted a multipronged approach to combating touting activities, including close liaisons with relevant law enforcement agencies in planning and conducting joint operations to combat touting activities and suspected cases involving other crimes. Apart from conducting joint operations with relevant law enforcement agencies, the LCSD will also introduce more timely measures to combat touting.

The LCSD appeals to the public not to buy sessions for use of facilities or pay for booking services from scalpers, and reiterates that user permits are non-transferable. In addition, according to the LCSD's "Conditions of Use of SmartPLAY", users are required to manage their accounts properly and should not share their accounts or disclose their user account numbers and passwords to others. The LCSD reminds members of the public that one's particulars in the SmartPLAY account, especially identity document numbers, are important personal data. Users should properly manage such data without disclosing the data to others arbitrarily, or else they could incur losses if the data are stolen for other unlawful purposes. If any SmartPLAY user is

found to have provided inaccurate information or failed to comply with the "Conditions of Use of SmartPLAY", the LCSD is entitled to cancel his/her account or suspend his/her account for 180 days.

LD reminds employers and employees to take heat stroke preventive measures in times of Heat Stress at Work Warning

As the Heat Stress at Work Warning is now in effect, the Labour Department (LD) reminds employers and employees to take appropriate measures during the effective period of the warning to prevent heat stroke when working in hot weather or hot environments.

Employees who work outdoors or in non-air-conditioned indoor environments face high levels of heat stress and are at a relatively higher risk of heat stroke. Employers should assess the risk factors of heat stress for employees at work and, based on the identified risk factors, take necessary preventive and control measures, including rescheduling work periods, setting up shading covers, providing ventilation and heat dissipation equipment, and reminding employees to replenish water and rest in a timely manner.

The Heat Stress at Work Warning is formulated by the LD based on the Hong Kong Heat Index. There are three levels of the warning: Amber, Red and Black, which help employers and employees better understand the level of heat stress while working outdoors or indoors without air-conditioning systems.

A spokesman for the LD said that when the department issues the Heat Stress at Work Warning, employers must refer to the criteria and recommendations provided in the "[Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work](#)" to conduct risk assessments, according to the workloads and other relevant heat stress risk factors, for employees who work outdoors or in non-air-conditioned indoor workplaces. Appropriate rest breaks should be arranged every hour, as far as reasonably practicable, based on various levels of the Heat Stress at Work Warning, to reduce employees' risk of heat stroke.

Employees must also follow instructions to rest on time. Whenever there are any symptoms of heat-related illnesses, such as headache, dizziness, thirst, and nausea, they should rest in a cool and shady place, drink water, and inform employers/supervisors to take appropriate action immediately.

The LD issued the "Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work",

detailing the various risk factors that should be considered when conducting heat stress risk assessments and recommending corresponding control measures for identified risk factors for employers' and employees' reference. For the Heat Stress at Work Warning and related guidelines, please refer to the department's thematic webpage:

www.labour.gov.hk/eng/news/prevention_of_heat_stroke_at_work.htm.