Maritime Hong Kong at a Glance
A Place for Business

**Excellent connectivity:** At the heart of Asia and the doorstep of the Pearl River Delta, coupled with advanced telecommunications infrastructure, Hong Kong is well-connected to the rest of the world.

**Established shipping heritage:** Hong Kong has long been a haven for shipping business, with 9.6% of the world’s merchant fleet owned or managed by our ship owners and a vibrant cluster of some 800 maritime companies.

**Rule of law and business friendly atmosphere:** A free economy, Hong Kong provides a level playing field for business. Civil rights, private property and intellectual property rights are protected under the Basic Law, Hong Kong’s Constitution.

**Diversified culture and living:** Hong Kong, Asia’s World City, is a liveable city with a metropolitan lifestyle featuring a unique mix of the Eastern and Western cultures.

Competitive Tax Regime

**Low and simple tax regime:** Hong Kong enjoys a competitive profits tax rate not exceeding 16.5% with very few other taxes and duties. The predictable tax regime facilitates long-term business planning.

**Profits tax exemption for international shipping operations:** Hong Kong shipping companies can retain most of their business income.

**Double taxation relief:** Hong Kong has entered into double taxation relief arrangements covering shipping income with 44 trading partners.
Hong Kong as a Regional Logistics Hub

**Major economic pillar:** Trading and logistics account for 22% of Hong Kong’s GDP and 20% of employment.

**Logistics hub:** Hong Kong has extensive connectivity with Mainland China and the rest of the world via well-developed and efficient multi-modal transport network.

- Over 100 airlines operating more than 1100 flights per day
- Regular and direct services to about 150 international destinations worldwide and some 40 destinations in Mainland China
- World’s busiest airport for international cargo

- About 330 container vessel sailings per week to around 470 destinations worldwide
- One of the busiest ports in the world

- Four road-based crossings between Hong Kong and Mainland China, with a capacity of about 120 000 vehicular crossings every day
Hong Kong Port – A World-Class Hub Port

**Deep water harbour:** Hong Kong Port allows vessels to navigate safely and easily in the harbour and can accommodate ultra large container vessels at all tides.

**Hub port in the region:** Hong Kong Port is capable of handling some 67 000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) of containers on average per day.

**Bridging the Belt and Road:** Hong Kong Port has cargo movements to and from about 45 countries with sea ports along the Belt and Road corridors.

**Good infrastructure:** Hong Kong Port comprises the Kwai Tsing Container Terminals with nine privately owned terminals, providing non-stop services 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and a variety of cargo handling facilities, serving different needs.

Reputable Shipping Register

**World-class register:** Ranked 4th in the world, the Hong Kong Shipping Register provides quality services to over 2 500 vessels with a gross tonnage of over 110 million as in July 2017.

**Flag State Quality Control:** Port State Control detention rates of Hong Kong-flagged ships stood at 0.81% in 2016, well below world average of 3.13%.

**Preferential treatment:** Hong Kong-flagged ships enjoy preferential taxation arrangement and a 30% reduction in dues in Chinese ports.

**Cost-effectiveness:** Hong Kong Shipping Register provides cost-effective and efficient services to facilitate Hong Kong-flagged ships.
Excellent Maritime Legal and Dispute Resolution Centre

- **One Country, Two Systems**: Under the principle of “One Country, Two Systems”, Hong Kong practises common law and maintains statutory law previously in force, its independent legal system and judiciary.

- **Rule of law**: The rule of law is the cornerstone of Hong Kong’s prosperity.

- **Judicial independence**: Hong Kong is ranked 8th among 138 jurisdictions around the world and 1st in Asia in terms of judicial independence.

- **Ideal choice for shipping law**: With a specialist Admiralty List in the High Court, bilingual professionals, and presence of many arbitration intuitions, Hong Kong is an ideal place for commercial and shipping contract formation and dispute resolution. Hong Kong is a party to all key International Maritime Conventions.

- **Respected arbitration centre**: There are ample choices of world-renowned international arbitration institutions in Hong Kong, providing professional international maritime arbitration services to cater for different preferences and requirements.

Ship Finance and Marine Insurance

- **International ship finance centre**: Hong Kong, a major international financial centre, offers first-rate ship finance services. Hong Kong’s financial system is renowned for its stability, integrity, robustness and transparency. World’s top banks and bookrunners maintain presence in Hong Kong, offering a wide range of competitive products.

- **Mature marine insurance market**: With the presence of over 80 authorised ship insurers and major P & I Clubs, the marine insurance market continues to expand in Hong Kong, with a full range of insurance services available from internationally renowned providers.
A Myriad of Maritime Services

**Ship management:** Some of the world’s largest and oldest ship management companies are based in Hong Kong.

**Shipbroking and chartering:** Being a regional base of many large shipbroking companies, Hong Kong has a pool of fully accredited shipbrokers with hands-on knowledge of the booming Asian market.

**Ship surveying:** Most of the world’s best-known classification societies have presence in Hong Kong.

**Agency services:** Many agents and freight forwarders operate in Hong Kong and provide services to tens of thousands of vessels that call at Hong Kong Port each year.

**Marine equipment and support services:** Essential marine equipment and support services can readily be obtained in Hong Kong.

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