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SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
36th session
Agenda item 16

STW 36/INF.3
3 November 2004
ENGLISH ONLY

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Seafarers' Work House

Submitted by the International Shipping Federation (ISF)

SUMMARY

Executive summary: ISF has produced a software program, *ISF Watchkeeper v2.0*, which enables shipowners and states to verify that work hours on board ships comply with IMO STCW '95 and ILO Convention 180

Action to be taken: See paragraph 6

Related documents: None

1 Prevention of fatigue is an important issue for the shipping industry. It will be recalled that Part BVIII/1 of STCW Code recommends: "*Administrations should consider the introduction of a requirement that records of hours of rest of seafarers should be maintained and that such records are inspected by the Administration at appropriate intervals to ensure compliance with working hours or rest periods.*"

2 ILO Seafarers' Hours of Work and the Manning of Ships Convention, 1996 requires flag states to ensure their ships maintain work hour records, based on the format published in the IMO/ILO Guidelines for the Development of Tables of Seafarers' Shipboard Working Arrangements and Formats of Records of Seafarers of Work and Rest, 1999.

3 Port states having ratified ILO 180 are entitled to ensure that visiting ships maintain proper work hour records that demonstrate full compliance with international requirements, regardless of the flag state's ratification of ILO 180.

4 To assist shipping companies (and flag and port state authorities required to check compliance), ISF has produced a new version of its record-keeping software – *ISF Watchkeeper 2.0* – which permits maintenance of seafarers' work hour records (and schedules) as required by international rules. The work hour records produced are consistent with the format recommended by the IMO/ILO Guidelines. The software allows ships to record compliance with more complex aspects of IMO and ILO regulations, such as ensuring that required rest has been received within "any" previous 24 hour or 7 day period, and during periods of flexible working permitted by STCW section A-VIII/1, paragraph 4 (and ILO 180 Article 5, paragraph 6). In practice, ISF has found that manual completion of the forms is very difficult.

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5 Copies will be made available to delegations at the meeting.

Action to be taken

6 The Sub-committee is invited to note the above.
