

Shipping firms briefed on updated sanctions-screening guidance

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More than 60 shipping companies attended a briefing in Singapore on Tuesday on updated guidance for screening vessels, cargoes and counterparties against international sanctions lists.

The session, organised by the port authority together with a regional shipowners' association, covered new expectations for checking the ownership of chartering counterparties, spotting ship-to-ship transfers at sea and monitoring vessels that switch off their tracking systems.

Companies listed as attendees included Quenvale Marine Pte. Ltd., Varrowind Shipping, Morrow Point Tankers and Calder Reach Logistics. Quenvale Marine managing director Daven Korsloe said the company had already updated its screening procedures for new charter contracts.

"The guidance gives operators clearer steps for what to check before a fixture is agreed," Korsloe told the briefing. "For a mid-sized ship manager, having a common standard is helpful."

Officials said the guidance was an update of existing practice and was not linked to any enforcement case. Attendance at the briefing was voluntary.

The updated guidance will take effect in September, and the port authority said it would hold further sessions for smaller operators in the coming months. Companies that could not attend will be able to obtain the briefing materials through the shipowners' association.

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