

The People's Republic of China  
Maritime Safety Administration



## National Matters

### China (China MSA)

72nd session of the IALA Council

In this difficult time due to the COVID-19, China MSA appreciates the efforts and contribution made by IALA to continually improving and harmonizing of Marine Aids to Navigation worldwide. Also, it's a pleasure to share information in AtoN sector in China since last Council meeting.

**Applications of BDS in China MSA.** The 55th navigation satellite of Beidou System was successfully launched on June 23, marking the completion of the deployment of BDS constellation six months ahead of schedule. The transport industry is one of the largest civil users of BDS, and the Ministry of Transport regards BDS application as an important support for digital transport. China MSA has started the installation and application of BDS equipment for official vehicles, vessels and aids to navigation infrastructures, it is expected to achieve 100% coverage within this year.

**The largest lighthouse tender was commissioned.** *Haixun 173*, China's largest and most advanced lighthouse tender, was commissioned in Guangzhou on July 22. *Haixun 173* length 73.34 meters, breadth 14 meters, 2228 tons of displacement, design speed 15 knots. The vessel equipped with twin-screw and twin-rudder propulsion system, satellite communications system, BDS, dynamic vessel monitoring system, optoelectronic tracking system etc., can fully meet the demands of operation under complex circumstances.

**The first meteorological lighthouse went into service.** China's first meteorological lighthouse, *Silk Road Shipping*, has been put into use at *Jiujiujiao Reef* in Xiamen Port. The lighthouse can carry out precise observation on surrounding areas, including visibility, wind direction and speed, temperature, humidity and air pressure etc. *Silk Road Shipping* will enhance the navigation safety at *Jiujiujiao* area and improve the efficiency by about 10% in fog.

**Capacity building.** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, after assessment and communication with IALA WWA, the LEVEL 1 course which scheduled from August to September has not been held yet, whether the course can be held still depends on the situation of the epidemic. From October 26 to 30, China MSA held a LEVEL 2 course at the Wenzhou training base, 31 technical personnel from China MSA attended the training and

examination. As long as the global epidemic is under control, China MSA will hold the training courses in 2021 as planned.