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Indonesia Officially Launches Pilotage Service in the Malacca and Singapore Straits

BUDD Group



Launching Indonesian Pilotage Services
for the Malacca and Singapore Straits

On 10 April 2017 in Batam, the Indonesian Ministry of Transportation officially launched a Pilotage service for the Malacca and Singapore straits. These straits are among the most important channels in South East Asia. Around 60-80 thousand cargo and tanker vessels sail through these narrow channels which total 550 miles in length.

Pilotage in the Malacca and Singapore straits is discussed by three countries, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore, every year at the Forum of the Tripartite Technical Expert Group (TTEG). The introduction of an Indonesian pilotage service in the Malacca and Singapore straits was agreed at the Intersessional Meeting of The Working Group on Voluntary Pilotage Services in Straits of Malacca and Singapore held at Bandung, Indonesia on 18-20 January 2017.

The decision to seek the assistance of Voluntary Pilotage Services (VPS) lies with ship masters and will depend on navigational conditions and density of traffic. In many instances, VPS can facilitate two-way communications and avoid collisions between vessels passing each other in the crowded channel.

The Indonesian Ministry of Transportation has appointed PT. Pelindo Marine Services I as its official operator of Pilotage services for foreign and domestic vessels passing through the Malacca and Singapore straits.

Information provided by Budd Indonesia.