

Eareckson, Peter

From: Eareckson, Peter
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 17:11
To:

Subject: Update 24Apr2012: SLF TM Convention Correspondence Group

Good day to you all,

A brief update of the group's work follows:

ROUND 1 QUESTIONNAIRE (Due May 11th!) - We are now over half way through the second phase of Round 1, with less than 3 weeks to go until the Round 1 Questionnaires are due. Please note the following on the Questionnaire:

a. Questionnaire Length - If you have not looked, the Questionnaire is 136 pages long, and is best not left to the last minute! That said, there is no requirement that you include comments in addition to checking the boxes, or even provide input on every proposal, although that is strongly encouraged. You are certainly welcome to focus only on those issues of most interest to you.

b. Formality of Comments - Your comments will not be repeated "word for word" in any summary, report or other document produced by the group, although the ideas contained therein might eventually be summarized - without attribution unless requested otherwise - in the final report to the Sub-Committee. It is always a goal to be as clear and concise as is practicable when circulating comments to the group. However, for this Round, it is preferable to make sure your views are heard, rather than worrying about comments being "perfect". The focus of this Round is the exchange and development of ideas.

c. Circulation to All Participants - As a follow-on to the preceding observation, it is of critical importance to copy all participants when you forward the completed Round 1 Questionnaires to the Coordinator (me), per the Action Plan. While I will be compiling and circulating results in a summarized form, this information will not be detailed, and certain arguments or lines of reasoning may otherwise go unseen. For those who already provided responses only to me in conjunction with earlier work due to some confusion over the instructions, I'll probably end up compiling this input and circulating it to the group via a single email, after discussions individually with the participants concerned.

d. "Prelim" Proposals - I received confirmation from the participant concerned to ignore the "prelim" categorization in the Questionnaire. Just treat these proposals like all the others.

e. Deadline - It is of critical importance that the May 11th deadline be strictly adhered to. The time available to compile the results, and get them back out to the group, is extremely limited (one week).

ADMINISTRATIVE - We've had one new participant join the group since the list was last updated: Albert Wiström of Sweden, who replaces Stefan Eriksson. Welcome aboard! The participants webpage

<http://www.uscg.mil/imo/slf/participants.asp>, as well as the listing of detailed information available through that page, have been updated accordingly.

WHAT'S AHEAD - As is evident from the Round 1 Questionnaire, much work lies ahead for the group. To meet our deadlines and assist with development of the group's report to the Sub-Committee, I'm intending to circulate a summary of the Round 1 results in a form that, subject to the group's comments, can be included in this report. Also, in looking ahead to the second phase of Round 2, we'll probably have to be a bit creative in consolidating the various input on specific language changes for the updated unified interpretations and/or any proposed amendments to the TM Convention, but I'm confident that is doable. Our goal is to give the Sub-Committee something meaningful to work with at its next session. Based on the level and quality of input so far, I believe we are well on our way to achieving that goal.

With my thanks again for the continued support of the group, and best wishes to you all.

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SLF TM Convention Correspondence Group

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