

**1st August 2012**

**Typhoon Saola closes ports in Taiwan and causing severe disruption to shipping**

Inchcape Shipping Services (ISS), the world's leading maritime services provider, is advising that Typhoon Saola is causing severe disruption to shipping in Taiwan with all ports now closed and cargo operations suspended - with the exception of Kaohsiung on the west coast of the country.

The Taiwan Central Weather Bureau's latest sea warning area covers the sea of north, northeast and southeast of Taiwan, and the north and south Taiwan strait. It has also issued a land warning predicting torrential rain in the northern, eastern and northeastern areas overnight.

ISS Taiwan is continuing to monitor events in the country on behalf of shipowners and operators and will keep clients updated in the coming days.

ENDS

**Notes to Editors**

Inchcape Shipping Services is the world's leading maritime services provider. With over 280 proprietary offices in 65 countries, and a workforce of over 3,700, the company's diverse global customer base now includes owners and charterers in the oil, cruise, container and bulk commodity sectors as well as naval, government and inter-governmental organisations.

ISS provides landside commercial and humanitarian logistics, transit, offshore support, informational and other associated marine services. The company also provides a growing range of outsourcing services including global crew and marine spares logistics; port hub agency management; and sophisticated Enterprise Resource Planning solutions through its subsidiary ShipNet.

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