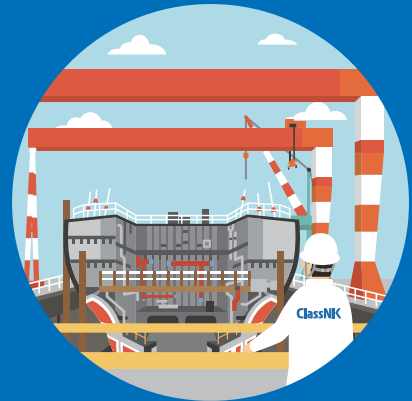
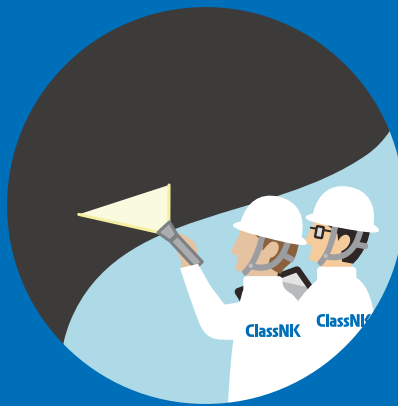


Introduction to

ClassNK

[English]



CHARTING THE FUTURE 

Management Principles

ClassNK, as an international classification society, will contribute to the world through the activities to ensure the safety of life and property, and to protect the environment.

Vision

- The organization aims to be ahead of the social shift and contribute to the creation of a sustainable and better society.
- The organization aims to flexibly respond to the changes of the surrounding business environment.
- The organization aims to be trusted by related industries and societies, and strengthen its business foundation.

In changing times, lasting trust connects industry

As a non-profit third-party certification body, Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (ClassNK) carries out surveys, certifications, rule-making, and R&D, with its mission of contributing to the safety of life and property, and environmental protection.

For more than 125 years, ClassNK has been developing rules and performing surveys to help ensure the safety of ships as a neutral third party as a class society, granting commercial ships the class required for insurance coverage.

We carry out drawing examinations and witness surveys related to hull structures, engines, equipment, materials, and various other systems based on class rules for ships and marine structures, and grant a class to ships that meet the standards. With over 9,000 ships on its register, we are the world's largest* society in terms of number of ships.

ClassNK is widely trusted as a technical organization, and has obtained the authority for surveys and certifications based on international conventions and regional regulations on behalf of over 100 flag administrations.

In addition, utilizing our many years of knowledge and experience as a third-party certification body, we are expanding certification area to various management systems including quality, environment, occupational safety and health, GHG emissions, renewable energy-related facility, aviation fuel, and entire transportation and logistics.

In response to environmental issues such as climate changes and social transformation by digitalization, companies are taking actions aimed at higher standards for ensuring reliability and sustainability, and the need for evaluation and certification on such initiatives is increasing. ClassNK provides timely and comprehensive certification services meeting a wide range of needs, and actively contribute to customers' businesses and the evolution of society.

* © Clarksons Research Statistics (As of end of 2024)



Environmental Challenges

While regulations related to environmental pollution and climate change are being tightened internationally, responsible actions for the environment, including decarbonization, are required in all business activities on top of compliance with the regulations.

Starting with the prevention of marine pollution from ships, ClassNK has always been involved in environmental protection. The Society works to solve environmental issues through implementation of appropriate surveys and certifications related to regulatory compliance, provision of solutions and information to support regulatory compliance of stakeholders, certification services for initiatives beyond regulatory compliance, R&D and development of decarbonization technologies through partnerships, etc.

Digital Transformation

As digital transformation changes society, ClassNK strives to promote efforts to improve its own services using digital technology, and builds the foundation for the industry to make the most of the benefits of digitalization.

We are actively implementing activities such as standard setting/certification for innovative technologies not yet having clear evaluation criteria established, in collaboration with technological front runners, and dissemination of a data collection/distribution/utilization platform in the maritime industry, in order to promote the safe and smooth use of digital technology such as automated/autonomous operation of ships, condition monitoring, remote surveys using ICT, and response to cyber threats.

ClassNK's slogan

"CHARTING THE FUTURE" represents our commitment to contribute to a better future for our customers and society, based on our philosophy and vision. As decarbonization and digitalization progress, we maintain a broad perspective, flexible thinking, and a proactive attitude towards change. With this spirit, we will work together with our customers to build the future maritime society.



History

- 1899 **Founding of the Society's forerunner, Teikoku Kaiji Kyokai**
- 1903 Published Ship inspection rules
- 1919 Formed an association of four classification societies with the USA's ABS, Italy's RINA, and England's BC (later combined with LR).
- 1920 First classed ship, the Kwanan Maru, completed
- 1921 Published first edition of Steel Ship Rules
- 1924 Published first edition of the Register Book
- 1926 Society's class approved by London Insurance Association
- 1934 Society recognized as Japan's ship classification society by the government under Ship Safety Act
- 1946 **Society renamed Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (ClassNK)**
- 1952 Society's class reapproved by the insurance association
- 1962 Opened first offices outside Japan (London and New York)
- 1968 Became one of founding members of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS)
- 1993 Started ISO Audit
- 1997 ClassNK fleet tops 100 million GT
- 2012 ClassNK fleet tops 200 million GT
- 2018 **ClassNK fleet tops 250 million GT**



Owned by Fukaya City, Saitama Prefecture

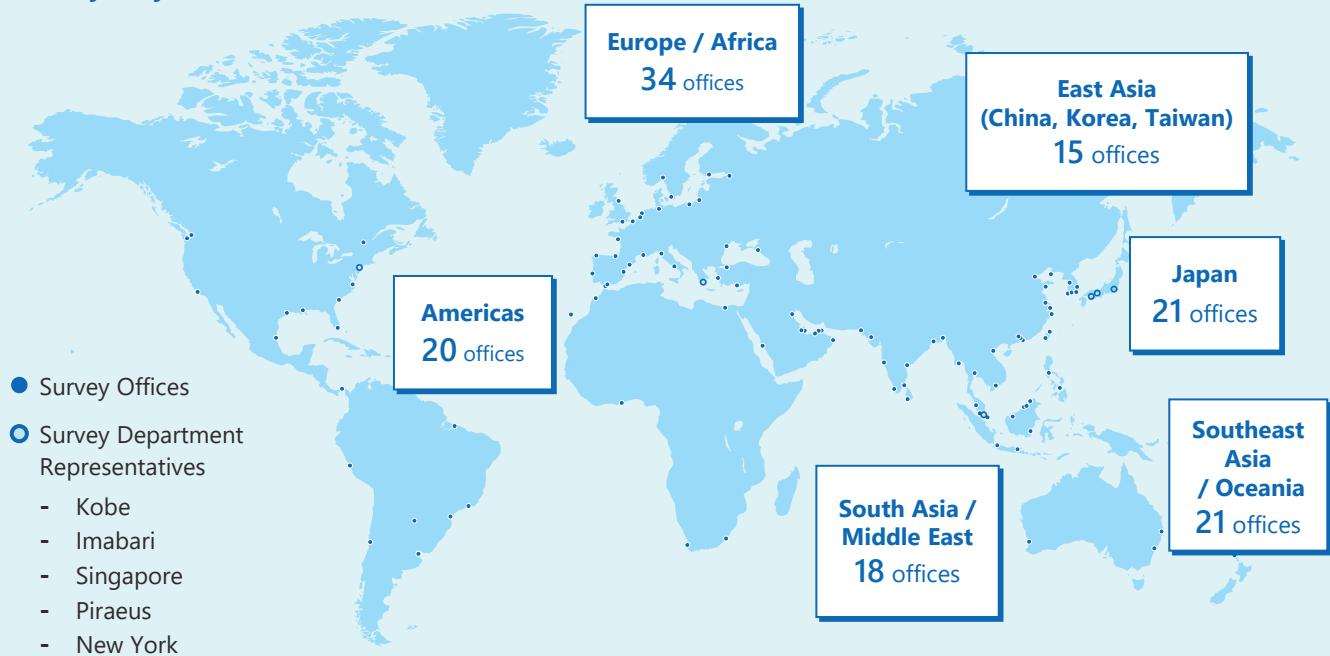
Overview

- Establishment, revision and abolition of class rules
- Drawing examinations and witness surveys related to hull structure, machinery, electrical and automatic installations, safety equipment, navigation equipment, cargo gears, materials, etc. of ships and offshore structures being built and in service.
- Approval of various manufacturers and service suppliers
- Surveys and certification based on international conventions and regional regulations
- Third-party assessment and certification related to ships, etc.
- Management system certification based on ISO standards such as quality, environment, occupational safety and health
- Verification of GHG emissions
- Certification related to renewable energy facility
- Certification of transportation and logistics area
- Class registration for government ships, etc.
- Inspection of testing machines, etc.
- Independent and collaborative R&D through partnerships
- Human resource development



Service Network

With approximately 130 dedicated survey offices in more than 50 countries located in major ports and maritime cities around the world, we provide services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



ClassNK Group

ClassNK and its group companies offer a variety of solutions for safety, environmental, digital and other industry challenges.

ShipDC

Ship Data Center

Ship Data Center operates IoS-OP (Internet of Ships Open Platform) for sharing the ship operation data, and the participant-led organization IoS-OP Consortium, to realize fair and equitable data distribution with the aim of creating innovation and maximizing opportunities for business improvement. It also provides services such as human resource development and webinar planning by leveraging its expertise in that operation.



NAPA

Based in 10 countries worldwide, including its head office in Finland, NAPA provides software that improves the safety, efficiency and productivity of ship design and operation. 95% of the world's new buildings are designed by users of the company's software.



Class & Statutory Services

Service as a classification society

Classification and class societies

“Classification” originates from the classification of ships required when applying for marine insurance, which began in the United Kingdom in the mid-18th century. Class societies were born out of the need for organizations that are independent of conflicting insurers, shipowners, and shipbuilders, and takes on role of impartial technical judgment as third parties.

Class societies establish standards related to ship safety as rules, and assign “Class” to ships that comply with the rules through drawing examinations and on-site surveys during their design and construction stages. To confirm the maintenance of a ship's class through periodic surveys after the ship is in service and to verify its safety was another original role. Class is said to be the prototype of the international third-party certification system, and class societies have been established mainly in countries where shipping is prosperous.

Even today, as one of the conditions for underwriting marine insurance, industry associations of insurance companies require ships to be classed by a member of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS), which is made up of the world's leading ship classification societies.

Establishment, revision and abolition of ship class rules

ClassNK has established various technical rules over the years to ensure ship safety and prevent environmental pollution, and it registers ships that comply with the rules. ClassNK is continuously establishing, revising and abolishing the rules to ensure it not only reflects the latest R&D and industry requests, but also the latest international conventions and regulations with the goal of keeping the rules rational and ships complying with them safe. The rules stipulate requirements for hull structures at the design and manufacturing stages as well as for materials, machinery and equipment installed on board ships. The rules also stipulate requirements related to class maintenance surveys for ships after they enter into service and also requirements related to the quality of shipyards and other companies related to shipbuilding, repair, maintenance, etc.

Electronic versions of the rules are available on ClassNK's official website free-of-charge to clients and other interested parties using the “ClassNK RuleViewer”.

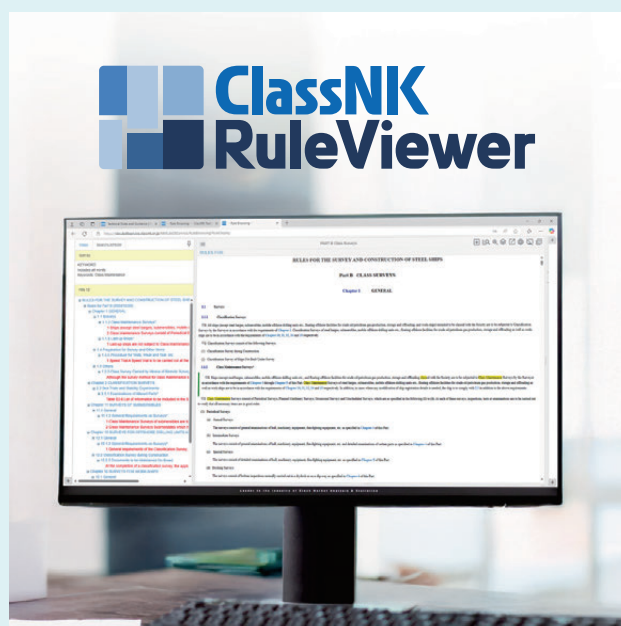
Approval of suppliers

For manufacturers and service suppliers engaging in manufacturing materials and equipment for classed ships and the maintenance of safety equipment and various measurements during construction and after service, we assess their quality systems, production technologies, and facilities based on the rules, and certify them as approved firms.

Inspection and approval of materials, machinery, and equipment

We examine and approve the materials, machineries, and equipment used for classed ships. Based on the rules, we carry out individual product inspection, manufacturing process approval, standardized design/type approval, mass production approval, type test, prototype approval, approval of use, etc. according to the product (examples below).

- Rolled steel, castings, forgings
- Prime movers, boilers, deck machineries, and other auxiliary machineries
- Anchors, anchor chains, mooring ropes
- Fire protection materials, welding consumables, oil-impervious materials, coating systems, airborne sound insulations
- Lifeboats, rescue boats, launching appliances, fire detection and alarm systems
- Automatic and remote control systems, low temperature valves for gas carriers, air pipe heads, liquid level gauging devices
- Marine pollution prevention equipment

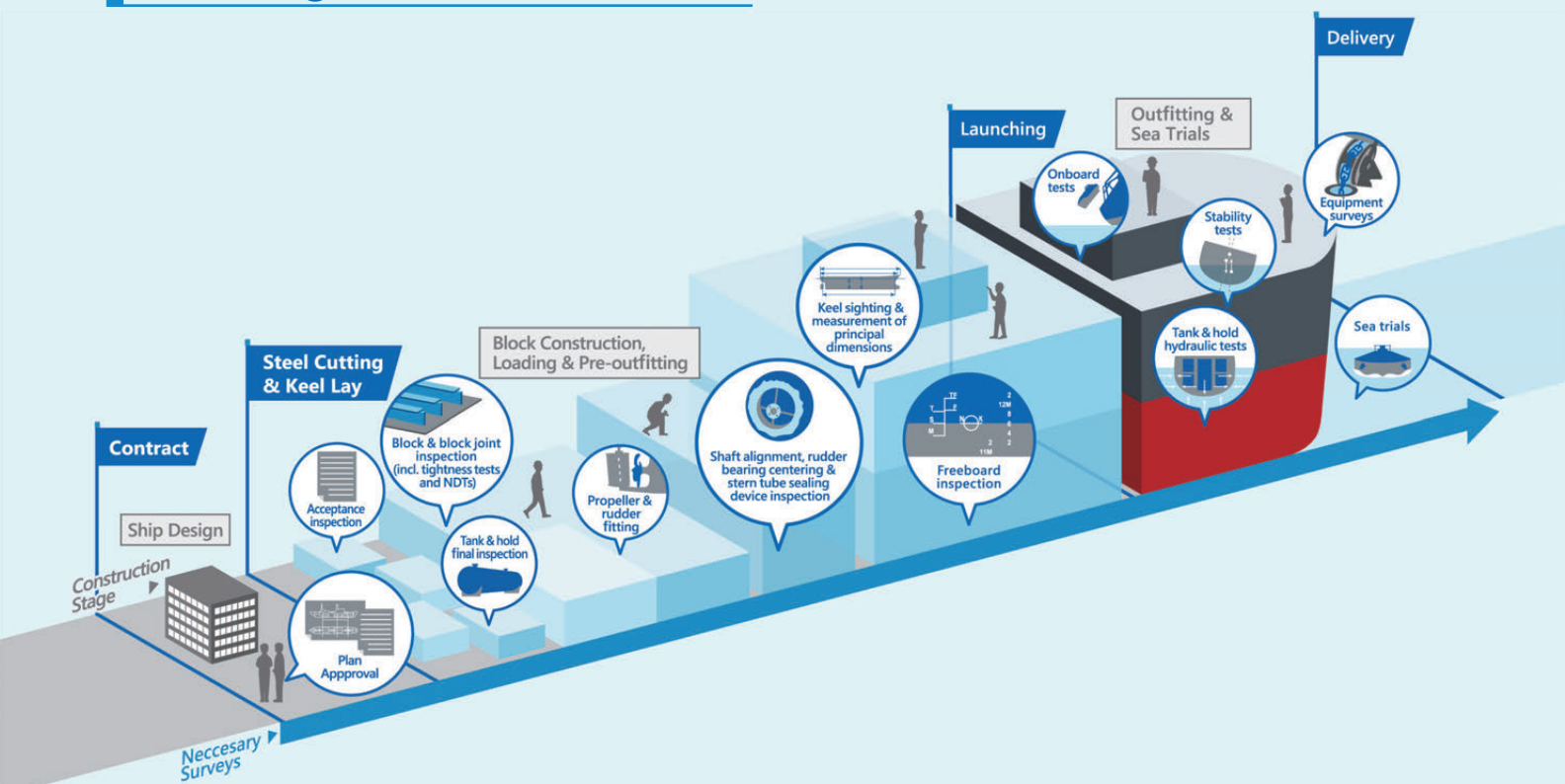


Registration surveys during construction

ClassNK conducts surveys during each stage of construction to classify the ship. Various design drawings of the ship are examined by our head office or overseas plan approval center based on the rules. When construction begins, surveyors confirm that the materials, machineries, and equipment used on the ship have been approved and survey the construction process to ensure it is carried out in accordance with rules and approved drawings. A class certificate is issued to ships that have completed the classification survey during construction after examination of design drawings, surveys during construction and sea trials, adding it to the Register of Ships publicized worldwide. Ships with the ClassNK class are recognized by the insurance industry around the world as those that meet certain standards and are subject to the prime rates for marine insurance.



Class Registration Process



Class & Statutory Services

Class maintenance surveys

A class certificate is valid for 5 years, but to maintain such status, periodic surveys stipulated in the rules are required, as well as occasional surveys as necessary. Periodic surveys are always carried out once a year.

ClassNK has established a structure to promptly implement class maintenance surveys at ports, docks, and anchorages around the world and support the smooth operation of ships in service.

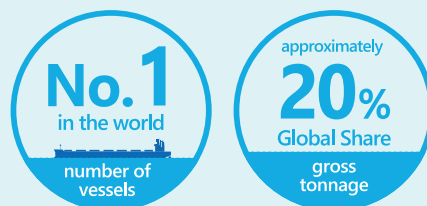
Registration surveys after construction

Ships built and registered in accordance with the rules set by members of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS), which is composed of the world's major class societies, can be registered as ClassNK ships by undergoing a classification survey after construction in accordance with the procedures stipulated in the IACS Transfer of Class Agreement (TOCA).

Registered vessels to ClassNK

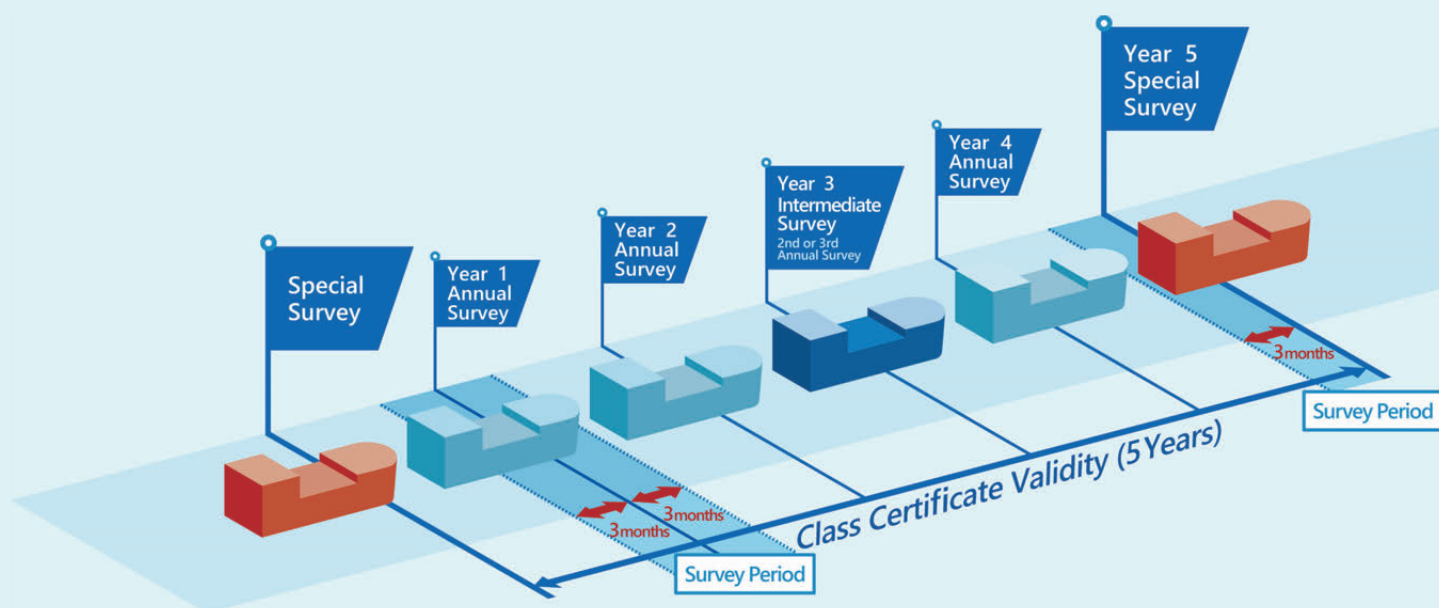
As of the end of 2024, 9,383 vessels, or approximately 278 million gross tons, were registered to ClassNK.

ClassNK accounts for the largest number of vessels of the IACS members* and 20% of the world's gross tonnage.



* © Clarksons Research statistics (as of the end of 2024)

Class Maintenance Process



■ Statutory services on behalf of flag administration

Merchant ships around the world that transport passengers and cargo are required to comply with international minimum requirements related to safety and prevention of environmental pollution that are stipulated as international conventions. International conventions are established by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), a specialized agency of the United Nations, and etc., and compliance to such conventions is to be confirmed by the government administration of the country (flag state) where the flag of the ship is registered. In addition to ships, some conventions also apply to ship management companies, etc. With its abundant knowledge cultivated as a class society and numerous offices around the world, ClassNK is authorized by flag state administrations to perform surveys, audits, and certifications based on international conventions. The following are some of the major international conventions that ClassNK is involved with.

International Convention on Load Lines (ICLL)

Defines the limits of load lines (i.e. legal limit of loaded cargo weight) and tightness in order to ensure the safety and watertight integrity of the ship against wave uprush etc.

International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)

Sets out safety standards for ship structure, fire protection, life saving appliances and arrangements, and radio communications etc. for the purpose of protecting the lives of passengers and the cargo onboard.

International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)

Sets out safety standards for ship structure, fire protection, life saving appliances and arrangements, and radio communications etc. for the purpose of protecting the lives of passengers and the cargo onboard.

Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREG)

Defines navigational methods for marine traffic of vessels, indicator lights and signal signs according to the type of vessel and the form of voyage (towing vessels, work vessels, etc.) in order to prevent vessel collisions at sea.

International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships (TM69)

Stipulates universal measurement methods for Gross Tonnage (GT), which represents the volume of a ship.

International Safety Management Code (ISM Code)

Sets out requirements for ship management companies to implement and maintain a Safety Management System (SMS) by the company and on board in order to ensure the safe management and operation of vessels.

International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS Code)

Stipulates requirements for ship management companies to implement and maintain a Ship Security Plan (SSP) on board in order to ensure the safety and security of vessels and port facilities from threats such as terrorism and pirates.

Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC, 2006)

Stipulates requirements for shipowners to implement and maintain measures to comply with provisions for seafarers' living and working conditions etc. onboard ships in order to improve their occupational health and safety with the aim of fair competition within the shipping industry.

International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling System on Ship (AFS)

In order to protect the marine environment and human health, sets out regulations for the use of anti-fouling hull paint containing tributyltin (TBT) and other organic tin compounds, used to prevent shells and other marine organisms from attaching to the hull.

International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM)

Stipulates regulations for appropriate ballast water management on vessels in order to protect the marine environment from potentially harmful organisms contained in ballast water discharge.

Ship Recycling Convention (HKC)

Stipulates requirements for implementing safe and environmentally sound recycling for ships and ship recycling facilities for the purpose of worker safety and protection of the surrounding environment in the dismantling and recycling of old ships.

Ship Recycling Convention



ClassNK Transition Support Services

We provide a comprehensive menu of services to support management of GHG emissions from ships.

As reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions becomes an urgent issue for the international society, the maritime industry is facing increasingly stringent pressure to reduce GHG emissions from ships, and the IMO and the EU are strengthening environmental regulations.


In this regulatory landscape, long-term measures such as the introduction of zero-emission fuels ships are essential for the planned reduction of GHG emissions. However, the infrastructure for supplying zero-emission fuels is still under development, requiring the introduction of various GHG reduction measures during the transitional phase.

ClassNK aims to comprehensively facilitate a smooth transition to zero-emission through its "ClassNK Transition Support Services". This service offers a comprehensive menu of solutions to support clients in reducing GHG emissions and proposes optimal strategies tailored to clients' needs.

ClassNK Transition Support Services Website




ClassNK Transition Support Services



Alternative fuels support

(Ammonia / Methanol / LNG / LPG / Biofuels)

Introduction support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ClassNK Alternative Fuels Insight• Safety requirements
Technical support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newbuilding ships / retrofit support
Operational support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operation / crew training support• Usage of biofuels
Certification support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fuel certification• Certification of GHG reduction effects• Certification of methane slip actual values




Onboard CCS support

Introduction support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trends• Safety requirements
Certification support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certification of captured CO2 volume




GHG emissions management support

GHG emissions management tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ClassNK MRV Portal• ClassNK ZETA
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Energy efficiency improvement support

Energy efficiency improvement support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Estimation of energy efficiency improvement effects• Support for introducing energy efficiency improvement technologies
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Understanding regulations

International Maritime Organization (IMO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whitepaper "Pathway to Zero-Emission in International Shipping"
European Union (EU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FAQs on the EU-ETS for Shipping• FAQs on the FuelEU Maritime

Innovation Endorsement

In order to support innovative technologies and initiatives, we offer third-party certification to endorse its feasibility and value.

As companies pursue ESG management and the SDGs to realize a sustainable society, various innovations have been vital to resolve challenges. For the spread of innovative technologies, ClassNK has offered Innovation Endorsement (IE) as a swift certification service in cooperation with technological front runners, while establishing evaluation criteria. IE covers three categories as the target of certification: Ships, Products & Solutions, and Providers.

[Innovation Endorsement Website](#)



ClassNK Innovation Endorsement

Ships

Certification for

Ships
with advanced initiatives



- Supports enhancing the ship's value through notations on class certificates.
- Offers four types of notations.

Digital DSS

Voyage optimization through digital data and technology

Green a-EA

Propulsion performance improvement
Marine environment preservation

Safety a-SAFE

Accident prevention advancement

Labour ELW

Working environment improvement

Products & Solutions

Certification for

Equipment, Software, and Solutions
with innovative functions



- Supports the deployment of products and services.
- Promotes onboard installation in collaboration with IE notation for Ships.

What We've Certified

various monitoring, data analysis,
ship-land communication,
remote support, cybersecurity,
operation support, weather routing,
fuel efficiency improvement

air lubrication, microplastic collection

AR utilization, berthing support

food freshness preservation

Providers

Certification for

Organizations
with advanced initiatives



- Supports the establishment of sustainable and competitive businesses.
- Offers three levels of certification according to the activity stage.

Class S

Sustainable Implementation

advanced initiatives lead by management systems which cycle continuously

Class D

Development

advanced initiatives lead by management systems which are in development stage

Class C

Concept

policies and frameworks for advanced initiatives

& YOURS

Delivers flexible services
in response to advancing innovations and customer needs.

Certification Services

To support a variety of businesses, we provide an expanding range of third-party certification services regarding quality, environment, occupational safety and health and other management systems, maritime education and training, greenhouse gas emissions, etc.

■ Management Systems and more

As part of its ship classification surveys, ClassNK has been actively involved in the auditing of the quality control systems of shipyards and machinery manufacturers, etc. Based on the extensive experience gained over many years, ClassNK has been engaged in the certification in accordance with the requirements of the respective standards. Organizations which have successfully passed certification audits are publicly registered by the Society as having management systems conforming to the requirements of the relevant standards. Certificates are issued to the organizations and their names are then added to the Society's registry for the respective management system.

- ISO 9001 (Quality Management Systems) Certification
- ISO 14001 (Environmental Management Systems) Certification
- ISO 45001 (Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems) Certification
- ISO 50001 (Energy Management Systems) Certification
- ISO 27001 (Information Security Management Systems) Certification
- ISO 39001 (Road Traffic Safety Management Systems) Certification
- ISO 22163 (Railway Quality Management Systems) Certification
- ISO31512 (BtoB Cold Chain Logistics Service)
- Cyber Security Management Systems Certification
- HSE (Health, Safety & Environment) Management Systems Certification
- Bio Safety Management Systems Certification

■ Greenhouse Gas (GHG)

ClassNK provides certification for greenhouse gas (GHG) based on international standards including ISO for factories and transportation departments.

Regulations requiring the calculation of GHG emissions and reductions are increasingly being implemented to address global warming and promote energy conservation. In addition to regulatory compliance, a growing number of companies are voluntarily calculating their emissions and disclosing this information in environmental reports as part of their corporate social responsibility initiatives. There is also consideration for the future use of such GHG emission and reduction data in the context of emission trading between companies.

In response to this situation, ClassNK, as a neutral third party, verifies and validates GHG emissions and reductions for companies in all fields – land, sea, and air - around the world.

ClassNK is accredited by the Japan Accreditation Board (JAB) for ISO 14064-1, ISO 14064-2 and ICAO CORSIA based on ISO 14065.

- Greenhouse Gas (GHG)
- GHG Emission Verification based on ISO14064
- SHIFT Program (Commissioned by Japan's Ministry of the Environment)
- J-Credit Scheme (Commissioned by Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry)
- GHG Emissions Verification of international civil aviation (ICAO CORSIA)
- Environmental Performance Verification
- Clean Cargo Working Group (CCWG) Verification
- Verification relating to Green Steels

⇒ p.9 ClassNK Transition Support Service



■ Seafarer Training

Recruitment of competent and properly trained seafarers has become essential to shipping company operations. In addition, since the ship operation itself is being advanced more technically according to technical innovation, the training of seafarers should be much more enhanced and strengthened not only for the management of shipping companies but also for safety at sea and protection of the marine environment.

To meet the various needs related to seafarers recruitment, ClassNK provides certification services to the maritime training sector, such as Certification of Maritime Education & Training Courses. ClassNK also offers the above certification and a training course for instructors for maritime education & training courses.

■ Occupational Environment and Labor

With labor shortages becoming a societal issue, securing manpower in the transportation industry has become increasingly challenging. ClassNK assists in tackling this problem through various approaches, including certification of work environments.

- Seafarer Recruitment and Placement Service Certification
- Japan's Evaluation Test for Specified Skilled Workers in the Field of Automobile Transportation Business and Shipbuilding & Ship Machinery Industries
- Technical Intern Training Program (Welders)
- Working Environment Certification of Land Transportation Providers Commissioned by Japan's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

■ Unmanned Aircraft

- Inspections for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Type Certification and UAS Certification
- Registered as a Registered Unmanned Aircraft Inspection Organization by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
- Examinations at the Designated Unmanned Aircraft Remote Pilot Certificate Testing Agency
- Designated as the Unmanned Aircraft Remote Pilot Certificate Testing Agency by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism



Renewable Energy

■ Wind Energy

We provide various certification services for wind power generator manufacturers and operators including but not limited to the IEC61400 series, which is the international standard for wind turbines. ClassNK verifies wind power facilities as a body registered by Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and our certifications are utilized in examinations required by relevant laws in Japan.

- Large and small wind turbine type certification
- Windfarm certification
- Project certification
- Tower and support structure certification
- Assessment and examinations in accordance with Japan's Electricity Business Act
- Surveys and certification for floating offshore wind turbines
- Surveys and certification for work-ships

■ GWO Training Certification

ClassNK provides approved certification services for training providers based on the international training standards for workers in the wind turbine industry established by the GWO (Global Wind Organisation).

■ Marine Warranty Survey

A Marine Warranty Survey (MWS) is a service in which a third-party organization designated by a reinsurance company examines and evaluates the construction of offshore facilities (transportation and installation of structures, cable laying, etc.) to ensure the safety and reliability of a project, and it is used as an insurance underwriting condition. ClassNK carries out MWS as an organization approved by major reinsurance companies.

■ Marine Renewable Energy

We carry out a variety of certification services for marine renewable energy converters such as type approval of power generation systems related to marine renewable energy including wave energy, tidal and marine, ocean thermal energy conversion, prototype certification for testing, project certification to verify if the facility and its support structure are suited to the installation site, and component verification.



[Renewable Energy Website](#)



Technical Services

■ Appraisal and certification services

- Ship condition, damage, and seaworthiness survey
- Ship design, strength evaluation
- Condition Assessment Program (CAP)
- Certification of tonnage measurement for Suez and Panama Canal
- Certification of conformity with special requirements of each country and region
- Certification of conformity with industry standards, etc.
- Statutory surveys of structures and equipment other than ships

■ Material testing machines

ClassNK is highly evaluated as an impartial third-party organization that provides testing and inspection services using material testing machines such as uniaxial testing machines (tensile / compression testing machine), impact testing machines, and hardness testing machines in accordance with the ClassNK Rules for Testing Machines and Japan Industrial Standards (JIS).



Government Ship Services

Class registration services are not limited to commercial ships, but also include governmental ships for navies and coast guards.

In the field of governmental ships, we provide high-quality classification and technical services for ships and onboard equipment in Japan and friendly nations.

Recently, there are high expectations about Japanese excellent equipment and technology from the international community. To contribute to the progress of the transfer of equipment and technology including governmental ships, ClassNK has made continuous efforts to provide clients with enhanced certification services based on its own technical rules covering international concepts and standards. Our business portfolio is as follows.

- Development, revision, and abolition of relevant rules
- Class registration / technical services of governmental ships
- Drawing examination and on-site surveys of ships and related products as a third-party inspection body
- Digital solutions
- Advisory services
- Training support

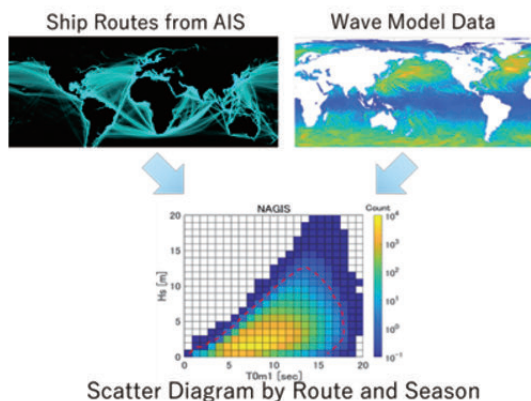


ClassNK is committed to evolving its business and contributing to the industry and society by conducting its own R&D, primarily related to the classification business, as well as various R&D activities through partnerships with industry players.

In line with the policies outlined in the Research and Business Development Roadmap, we are carrying out the following R&D activities.

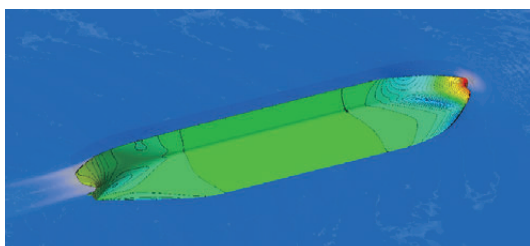
R&D leveraging digital technologies (big data analytics and IT) based on core technologies.

- Development of structural rules with high rationality and transparency, applicable to innovative vessels including alternative fuel ships
- Utilization of IT for parametric rolling countermeasures (integration with navigational equipment and weather routing services)
- Safety evaluation of container lashing based on route and seasonal conditions



R&D for decarbonization

- Wind-assisted propulsion systems
- Quantitative risk assessment of alternative fuel ships
- Material compatibility with alternative fuels
- Offshore wind power generation
- Evaluation of ship propulsion and fuel efficiency performance



R&D for digitalization

Contributes to innovation in society and the maritime industry through the development of assessment criteria and advanced assessment technology, etc., to certify sophisticated systems and organizations, etc.

- Risk assessment of entire systems and evaluation of autonomous ships' component technologies
- Condition monitoring of marine propulsion systems using digital twin technology

Publication of Guidelines

Based on research outcomes, we publish guidelines on advanced technologies such as alternative fuel ships and autonomous ships, and conduct certifications including Approval in Principle (AiP) based on these guidelines.



Human Resource Development

Based on our experience and knowledge accumulated through many years of surveys and technical research, we actively provide information to contribute to human resource development in the industry as a whole.

ClassNK has been holding "ClassNK Academy", an education and training service, since 2009. We offer a variety of curriculums, including comprehensive learning courses for those involved in ship design, construction, operation and maintenance on different themes including "ship surveys", "international conventions", "ship management", "ship in service related" etc.

We also hold technical seminars all over the world to introduce a wider variety of the latest technologies and regulatory trends.

[ClassNK Academy Website](#)



International Activities

We offer our advanced knowledge as a technical expert in the field of international rule development.

ClassNK has contributed its knowledge by dispatching experts to various organizations including the International Maritime Organization (IMO), a specialized agency of the United Nations, the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS), which consists of the world's major class societies, and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

Especially regarding the IACS, ClassNK has been a member since its establishment and has assumed chairmanship of the council, the highest body, five times. In addition to leading the establishment of Unified Requirements (UR) and Unified Interpretations (UI), which are common rules of the IACS Member Association, we also participate in organizational management, actively ensuring that IACS activities are carried out fairly and transparently.

In addition, we have established ClassNK Committees and Technical Committees, inviting industry leaders and experts from all over the world to support the development of the maritime industry in these regions.



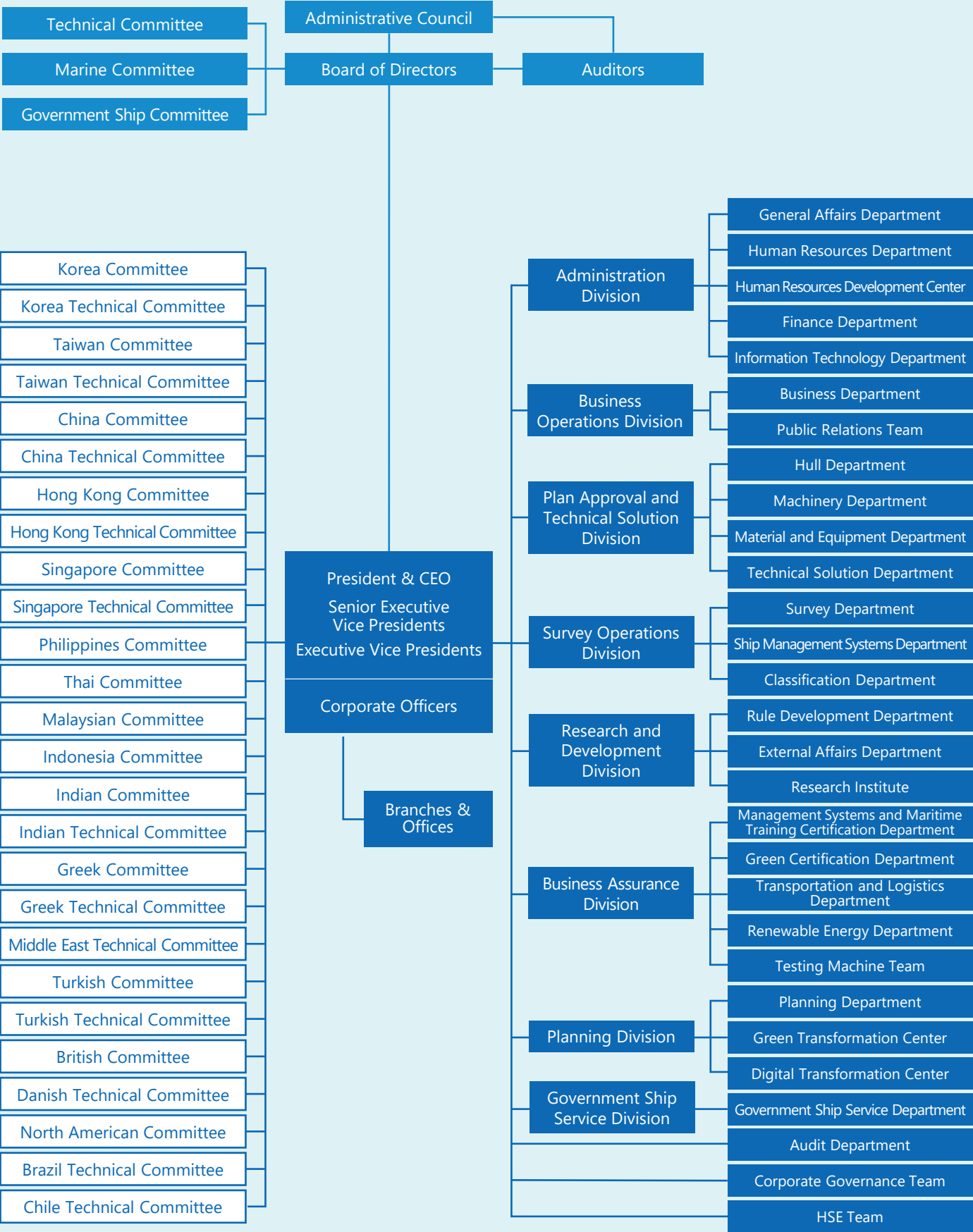
SDGs Mapping of ClassNK Business Activities

For the sustainable development of the entire society, ClassNK perform business in consideration of the environment (E) and social (S) and establish sound governance (G). ClassNK is contributing the achievement of the UNs' SDGs.

Business activities	Related SDGs
Safety surveys / audits in line with ClassNK technical rules and regulations including Load Line and SOLAS	
Environmental surveys / audits in line with ClassNK technical rules and regulations including MARPOL (Oil / hazardous liquid substances / sewage / waste / air pollution), BWB, AFS, and HKC	    
Working condition inspections in line with regulations including MLC	 
R&D (rule development / survey technology innovation / marine environmental protection / revolutionary technology development)	    
Certifications on renewable energy	 
Certifications on management systems, HSE, GHG emissions, seafarer training institutions, working condition, and transportation and logistics	    
ClassNK Academy and other training services	 
Provision of support on design / construction / operation and regulatory requirement, software for optimization, and any solutions related to industry challenges	   
Ensuring management base (human resources, governance)	    

Organization

As of 1 April 2025



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