

Use of Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP)

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part C

Guidance for the Approval and Type Approval of Materials and Equipment for Marine Use

Reason for Amendment

Currently, U.S. Coast Guard PFM 2-98 (Policy File Memorandum on the Use of Fiber Reinforced Plastic Gratings and Cables Trays) is widely used as a guide regarding the usage of gratings and handrails etc. made of fiber reinforced plastic (FRP). In fact, some classification societies have their Rules based on the requirements given in this memorandum.

On the other hand, since there are no specific requirements regarding the usage of gratings and handrails, etc. made of FRP in the Rules, the usage of FRP for ships is decided on a case by case basis according to the requirements on the U.S. Coast Guard PFM2-98.

In response to an increasing call throughout the industry for the creation of specific standards regarding the approval and usage of FRP, this amendment has been proposed in order to introduce new requirements, using U.S. Coast Guard PFM 2-98 as reference, regarding the approval and usage of FRP into the Rules.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Annex C1.1.7-5. "Guidance for the Use of Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP)" in Part C of the Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships has been added.
- (2) "Approval of the Use of Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP)" in Chapter 9, Part 2 of the Guidance for the Approval and Type Approval of Materials and Equipment for Marine Use has been added.