

Requirements of Thickness Measurement for Dry Cargo Ships other than General Dry Cargo Ships

Amended Rules

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B

Reason for Amendment

It has been well known that many reduction of thickness due to corrosion and damage are found around the cargo holds of the ships carrying timber cargoes. Because of this, the Society has specified strict requirements for periodical surveys and has applied these requirements to dry cargo ships including ships carrying timber cargoes.

IACS established Unified Requirement (UR) Z7.1 in June 2002 and specified that periodical surveys comparable to the Enhanced Program of Inspection (ESP) are to be carried out for general dry cargo ships including ships carrying timber cargoes.

Therefore, the Society amended the relevant requirements in accordance with IACS UR Z7.1. However, for dry cargo ships other than general dry cargo ships (container carrier, PCC etc.), the Society maintained requirements stricter than UR Z7, which is applied to such ships, according to the requirements applied until then.

However, when the thickness measurement results of such ships were reinvestigated, it was discovered that there was generally little reduction of thickness due to corrosion. Furthermore, because the areas of relatively excessive corrosion were limited, the society considered it is to be possible to deal with such corrosion by carrying out additional thickness measurements based on the outcome of internal examinations. Therefore, the Society considers that there will be no impact on ship safety if the requirements of thickness measurements were mitigated to the level of those given in IACS UR Z7.

Accordingly, the requirements of thickness measurements for dry cargo ships other than general dry cargo ships have been amended in accordance with IACS UR Z7. At the same time, the requirements of thickness measurements for general dry cargo ships have been amended in accordance with the requirements for dry cargo ships other than general dry cargo ships.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) The requirements of thickness measurements for dry cargo ships other than general dry cargo ships specified in Table B5.8, Part B of the Rules for the survey and construction of steel ships have been amended.
- (2) Allowances for ships less than 100 *m* in length have been deleted from the requirements of thickness measurements for general dry cargo ships specified in Table B5.21, Part B of the Rules for the survey and construction of steel ships