

Fire Resistance Requirements for FRP Gratings used for Gangways to Tanker Bows

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

Tankers, including chemical tankers and gas carriers, are required by SOLAS Reg.II-1/3-3 to be fitted with gangways for the purpose of ensuring safe access to the bow. Detailed requirements specified in the ClassNK Rules related to this matter are based on Resolution MSC.62(67).

In recent years, there has been an increase in the number of gratings that have been made using FRP materials being used for such gangways. In response, IACS conducted discussions on the fire resistance requirements of such FRP gratings in order to create a common interpretation. As a result, it was agreed that FRP gratings used for such gangways should have the following characteristics: fire integrity, low flame spread, low smoke generation and low-toxicity gas generation. This was adopted as IACS UI SC253 in December 2011.

Accordingly, all relevant requirements have been amended based on IACS UI SC253.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Fire resistance requirements for FRP gratings used for gangways to tanker bows have been amended.
- (2) Standards regarding toxic gas generation have been added to the manufacturing process approval tests of FRP products.