

Hull Surveys

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B

Reason for Amendment

Amendments to IACS Unified Requirement (UR) Z7 Series and Z10 Series, which specify requirements related to the hull surveys of ships in service, were adopted by IACS in May and June of 2013. These amendments revised the list of ships excluded from the definition of general dry cargo ships and clarified the provisions of safe access for surveys of hull structures and the procedures for cargo tank pressure tests conducted in the presence of the Master of the ship. In addition, requirements related to breathing apparatus used as a rescue and emergency response equipment were added to the UR Z10 Series in accordance with the establishment of IACS Procedural Requirement No.37, which specifies requirements related to confined space safe entry.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended so as to follow IACS UR Z7(Rev.20), Z7.1(Rev.9), Z10.1(Rev.20), Z10.2(Rev.30), Z10.3(Rev.15), Z10.4(Rev.11) and Z10.5(Rev.13). In addition, the table which specifies the structural members subject to close-up surveys for oil tankers and ships carrying dangerous chemicals in bulk is amended so that the requirements for ships having double hull structure and ships without double hull structure were listed separately in order to make the Rules more coherent. Also, the wording of some of the requirements related to close-up surveys and thickness measurements was modified in order to clarify their application and ensure their consistency with IACS URs and 2011 ESP Code.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Deleted “dedicated forest product carriers (except for ships carrying timber cargoes)” from the list of ships excluded from the definition of general dry cargo ships.
- (2) Specified that it is recommended that breathing apparatus and/or other equipment be suitable for the configuration of the space being surveyed if it is used as “Rescue and emergency response equipment”.
- (3) Clarified that hydraulic arm vehicles such as conventional cherry pickers are included in the provisions of safe access for close-up surveys not only for the cargo hold shell frames of bulk carriers, but also all other structural members of bulk carriers and all structural members of all other kinds of ships.
- (4) Amended the procedures for cargo tank pressure tests conducted in the presence of the Master of the ship for oil tankers and ships carrying dangerous chemicals in bulk so that such tests are regarded as the pressure tests required for Special Surveys.
- (5) Amended the table which specifies the structural members subject to close-up surveys for oil tankers and ships carrying dangerous chemicals in bulk so that the requirements for ships having double hull structure and ships without double hull structure are listed separately.
- (6) Modified the wording of some of the requirements related to close-up surveys and thickness measurements in order to clarify their application and ensure their consistency with IACS URs and 2011 ESP Code.