

Steering Tests at Sea Trials

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B
Rules for the Survey and Construction of Inland Waterway Ships
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Inland Waterway Ships

Reason for Amendment

SOLAS II-1/Reg.29 stipulates the steering capabilities required at the ship's deepest seagoing draught. Although these capabilities are to be verified through tests during sea trials, it may be difficult in practice to perform such test at the deepest seagoing draught for bulk carriers and large container carriers, etc. Therefore, the IMO developed alternative verification procedures to verify that such ships have steering capabilities required by SOLAS and these were adopted as MSC.1/Circ.1425, which has already been incorporated into the ClassNK Rules.

Thereafter, at the 93rd Session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC93) held in May 2014, partial amendments to SOLAS II-1 were adopted as resolution MSC.365(93). This resolution stipulates an additional alternative verification procedure, in addition to the procedures stipulated in MSC.1/Circ.1425. This alternative verification procedure calculates an ahead speed resulting in a force and torque applied to the main steering gear which is equivalent to that applied at the deepest seagoing draught by using the submerged rudder blade area in the proposed sea trial loading condition; The test is then performed at that speed.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended in accordance with resolution MSC.365(93).

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Added an procedure, as an alternative verification procedure of steering capabilities, which calculates an ahead speed resulting in a force and torque applied to the main steering gear which is equivalent to that applied at the deepest seagoing draught by using the submerged rudder blade area in the proposed sea trial loading condition and specifies that the test is to be performed at that speed.
- (2) Since alternative verification procedures of steering capabilities were stipulated in SOLAS II-1 from circular, which interprets SOLAS, relevant alternative verification procedures currently stipulated the Guidance were moved to Rules.