

Hatch Covers of Ballast Holds

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part C
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part C

Reason for Amendment

In May 2011, IACS established IACS Unified Requirement (UR) S21A in order to ensure that the structural requirements for the hatchways of the cargo holds of ships other than bulk carriers, ore carriers and combination carriers (e.g., container carriers and general cargo ships, etc.) were consistent among all IACS members. This UR has already been incorporated into the ClassNK Rules.

Among the ships subject to the aforementioned UR, there are some which also use their cargo holds as ballast holds. Although common practice is for the hatch covers of such holds to have sufficient strength to resist loads due to water ballast, the current requirements did not clearly specify such a thing.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended to clarify the consideration to be given to the loads due to water ballast for the hatch covers of cargo holds used as ballast holds.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Specified requirements that state special consideration is to be given to the steel hatch covers and hatch coamings of cargo holds used as deep water ballast tanks for ships in order to ensure they are of sufficient strength to resist loads due to water ballast.
- (2) Specified standard strength requirements in the Guidance for the steel hatch covers and hatch coamings of ballast holds in consideration of loads due to water ballast.

Amended Requirements

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships
Part C: 20.2.14
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships
Part C: C20.2.14