

Towing Winch Emergency Release Systems

Amended Rules

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Parts B, and O

Reason for Amendment

IACS stipulates the installation of towing winch emergency release system for ships engaged in towing operations within close quarters, ports or terminals in accordance with IACS Unified Requirement (UR) M79. These requirements have already been incorporated into the NK Rules.

Some parts of UR M79, however, were unclear and IACS received requests from some relevant industry members that these parts be clarified. As a result, IACS revised the UR to clarify the intent of some of its requirements and the revised version was adopted as UR M79(Rev.1) in February 2020.

In conjunction with this UR, IACS also revised UR Z18 because some its requirements are applicable to existing ships subject to UR M79. This revised version was adopted as UR Z18(Rev.9) in April 2020.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended based upon UR M79(Rev.1) and UR Z18(Rev.9).

Outline of Amendment

The main details of the amendment are as follows:

- (1) Clarified that the installation of towing winch emergency release systems on ships engaged in towing operations within close quarters, ports or terminals also apply to ships normally not intended for towing operations in the transverse direction.
- (2) Amended requirements related to the installation of emergency stop buttons to clarify that compliance is optional for ships required to install towing winch emergency release systems.
- (3) Stipulated that instructions for surveys of emergency release systems are to be documented by the manufacturer.
- (4) Stipulated survey requirements for towing winch emergency release systems in accordance with UR Z18(Rev.9).

Amended Requirements

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships

Part B: 15.2.2, 15.2.5, 15.3.2, 15.5.2

Part O: 4.4.2, Annex 4.4.2-3 1.1.1, 1.1.2, Fig.1.2.1-1, 1.2.1, 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.5.1