

Ship Surveys Based on International and National Regulations

Amended Rules

Conditions of Service for Classification of Ships and Registration of Installations

Reason for Amendment

ClassNK (hereafter referred to as “the Society”) provides services based on its “Regulations for the Classification and Registry of Ships”, the “Conditions of Service for Classification of Ships and Registration of Installations” and other relevant regulations, and these regulations serve as the basis for the Society’s technical rules and guidance.

Among these regulations, the “Conditions of Service for Classification of Ships and Registration of Installations” stipulates that the main activity of the Society is to provide services related to the classification of ships and the registration of installations of ships as well as the conditions under which such services and any information or advice of whatever nature relating to such services are to be provided.

More specifically, the Society conducts examinations and inspections regarding classification of ships in accordance with its rules related to the survey and construction of ships (hereinafter referred to as “Ship Rules”) such as the “Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships”, and examinations and inspections regarding registration of installations in accordance with its rules related to the survey and construction of installations (hereinafter referred to as “Installation Rules”) such as the “Rules for Ballast Water Management Installations”.

In addition to the above, ships are also required, in principle, to comply with all relevant international and national regulations and the Society clearly states this to be the case in the Ship Rules and in the Installation Rules so as to remind ship builders and shipowners of this fact. Such a thing, however, was not clearly stated in the “Conditions of Service for Classification of Ships and Registration of Installations”, which might have led to misunderstandings among Society clients.

Therefore, in order to prevent any misunderstandings, relevant requirements in the “Conditions of Service for Classification of Ships and Registration of Installations” were amended to clarify the handling of examinations and inspections based on international and national regulations.

Outline of Amendment

Specified that the Society might assess compliance with international and national regulations in the presence of any instructions from flag administrations and in such cases might enter into agreements with flag administrations to provide such assessments.

“Conditions of service for classification of ships and registration of installations” has been partly amended as follows:

Chapter 2 CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

2.1 General

2.1.3

Sub-paragraph (5) has been added as follows.

In addition to the provisions contained in the Rules and Regulations of the Society, such services, information or advice are provided on the strict basis that:

- (1) The ship and/or the installations shall be properly maintained and operated under the sole responsibility of the ship owner at all times between the surveys generally and conforming with the Rules and Regulations of the Society.
- (2) It is the responsibility of the ship owner to report to the Society any incident or event which may affect the classification of a ship and/or the registration of an installation.
- (3) Any classification and/or registration documents issued pursuant to surveys carried out by the Society’s surveyors reflect the condition of the ship and/or the installations as at the time of the survey.
- (4) The classification of a ship and/or the registration of an installation and/or any document, information or advice issued or provided by the Society relating thereto shall not constitute a representation, statement or warranty of seaworthiness, structural integrity or quality or fitness for a particular purpose or service beyond any representation set forth in the Rules of the Society and shall be for the sole use of the Society and its clients or other duly authorised entities and no other party.
- (5) As part of its general classification procedures, except for requirements provided as the Rules and Regulations of the Society, the Society does not assess whether or not a ship complies with any applicable national or international regulations. However, it may receive instructions from the relevant flag administration to review and approve a ship’s design for the purposes of such assessment and in those circumstances may enter into an agreement with the flag administration to carry out that review and approval.