Interval between Open-up Examinations of Valves and Cocks at Docking Surveys

Object of Amendment

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B

Reason for Amendment

IACS Unified Requirement (UR) Z3 (Rev.8) requires open-up examinations of valves and cocks be carried out at docking surveys. The Society has already incorporated this requirement into Part B of its Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships.

IACS UR Z3 (Rev.8) further specifies that valves and cocks need not be opened up more than once within each five-year Special Survey period unless considered necessary by the surveyor-in-charge. The NK Rules, on the other hand, specify that the valves and cocks may not require open-up examinations at the discretion of the surveyor-in-charge provided they were opened up and found to be in good order at the previous docking survey. NK rules are, therefore, not consistent with IACS UR Z3 (Rev.8).

Accordingly, relevant requirements are amended to be consistent with IACS UR Z3 (Rev.8).

Outline of the Amendment

Amends requirements to clarify that valves and cocks need not be opened up more than once within each five-year Special Survey period unless considered necessary by a surveyor.

Effective Date and application

Effective date of this amendment is 1 January 2026.

ID:DX25-04

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Amended-Original Requirements Comparison Table
(Interval between Open-up Examinations of Valves and Cocks at Docking Surveys)

Amended	Original	Remarks

RULES FOR THE SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION OF STEEL SHIPS

Part B CLASS SURVEYS

Chapter 6 DOCKING SURVEYS

Table B6.1 Requirements for Docking Surveys

Items		Examinations	
(Omitted)			
3	Scupper, overboard discharges and sea inlets including distance pieces below freeboard deck, and valves and cocks on shell plating, sea chest or distance piece, and side thrusters	(1)	The main parts of valves and cocks are to be opened up and examined. The bolts or studs fastening these mountings to the hull are to be examined. ~~The valves andcocks may not require open-up examination at the discretion of the Surveyorprovided they were opened up and found to be in good order at the lastDocking Survey.~~ Valves and cocks need not be opened up more than once in a special survey period unless considered necessary by the Surveyor. In cases where consecutive In-water Surveys in lieu of Docking Surveys conducted in dry dock or on slipway may be applied with Administration approval, the open-up examination of valves and cocks required may be exempted at the discretion of the Society provided they were examined (including visual inspection by diver) and found to be in good order.
		(2)	Side thrusters are to be visually examined for any damage which may affect the hull structure.
		(3)	For ships fitted with exhaust gas cleaning systems, the internal condition of distance pieces of piping systems for washwater used in scrubber chambers is to be examined for damage.
(Omitted)			

IACS UR Z3(Rev.8) Z3.2.3

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Amended-Original Requirements Comparison Table
(Interval between Open-up Examinations of Valves and Cocks at Docking Surveys)

Amended	Original	Remarks
EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION **1.** The effective date of the amendments is 1 January 2026.		

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