

Unified Interpretation of Noise Code

Amended Rules

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B

Reason for Amendment

Requirements related to the noise levels on board ships are specified by the IMO in the Code on Noise Levels On Board Ships and these requirements have already been incorporated into the NK Rules.

In recent years, however, several IACS members have expressed the view that the definition of “workshops other than those forming part of machinery spaces” specified in the code was not clear. After some internal discussion, IACS developed a draft unified interpretation for the purpose of clarifying this definition.

This draft unified interpretation was submitted to the IMO’s Maritime Safety Committee(MSC) for review at its 105th session(MSC 105). The MSC discussed the draft and ultimately decided to adopt it as resolution MSC.1/Circ.1654. In addition, IACS also adopted the draft as Unified Interpretation UI SC 296.

Accordingly, all relevant requirements are amended based on MSC.1/Circ.1654 and IACS UI SC 296.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Specifies the definition for the “workshops other than those forming part of machinery spaces” entry in the list of spaces for which noise level limits are specified.
- (2) Specifies an interpretation for workshops which are not separated from machinery spaces by bulkheads or other means.

“Rules the survey and construction of steel ships” has been partly amended as follows:

Part B CLASS SURVEYS

Annex 2.3.1-2 PROCEDURES FOR ON BOARD NOISE MEASUREMENTS

Chapter 4 MAXIMUM ACCEPTABLE SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS

An 4.1 General

Measurement results are not to be more than the noise level limits specified in **Table An 4.1**. In large rooms with many measurement positions the individual positions are to be compared to the limits.

Table An 4.1 has been amended as follows.

Table An 4.1 Noise Level Limits (Unit: *dB(A)*)

Designation of rooms and spaces	Ship size	
	1,600 up to 10,000 GT	≥10,000 GT
Work spaces		
Machinery spaces ^{1,2}	110	110
Machinery control rooms	75	75
Workshops other than those forming part of machinery spaces ³	85	85
Non-specified work spaces (other work areas)	85	85
Navigation spaces		
Navigating bridge and chartrooms ²⁴	65	65
Look-out posts, incl. navigating bridge wings and windows ²⁵	70	70
Radio rooms ⁴⁶ (with radio equipment operating but not producing audio signals)	60	60
Radar rooms	65	65
Accommodation spaces		
Cabin and hospitals ⁵⁷	60	55
Messrooms	65	60
Recreation rooms	65	60
Open recreation areas (external recreation areas)	75	75
Offices	65	60
Service spaces		
Galleys, without food processing equipment operating	75	75
Sergeries and pantries	75	75
Normally unoccupied spaces		
Spaces referred to in section 3.8	90	90

Notes:

1. If the maximum noise levels in **Table An 4.1** are exceeded when machinery is operating, stay is to be limited to very short periods if dispensation is granted by the Administration.
2. Workshops(including workbenches and workstations) in machinery spaces are to be regarded as “machinery spaces”.
3. Notwithstanding 2 above, enclosed workshops located in machinery spaces are to be regarded as “workshops other than those forming part of

machinery spaces” in cases where the enclosed workshops are separated from machinery spaces by bulkheads, which may include access doors with acoustic insulating properties equivalent to the bulkhead.

24. A navigating bridge provided with radio equipment is to be regarded as a “navigating bridge”.
25. With respect to the enclosed type navigating bridge wings, navigating bridge wings without solid separation (e.g. wall and door), and those with solid separation (e.g. wall and door) are to be regarded as “navigating bridge” and “navigating bridge wings” respectively. (See Fig. An 4.1)
46. “Radio rooms” mean separate rooms dedicated for sending/receiving radio messages.
57. A room consisting of day-room and bedroom is to be regarded as a single “cabin” in cases where the room is for single occupancy.