

Subject :

Marine Safety Initiatives implemented
by All IACS Member Societies

NKTECHNICAL INFORMATION

No. : 181

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As you may know, the following seven initiatives were adopted by IACS (International Association of Classification Societies) during June 1995. These initiatives have been adopted in response to strong demands to IACS by shipping, shipbuilding and insurance industries of each country, etc., and have been implemented simultaneously by all IACS Member societies, the aim being that IACS, who should play the center role in enhancing safety at sea, improves its safety standards. In accordance with these initiatives, NK has taken necessary measures including the amendment of its own rules and regulations in order to implement the following seven initiatives:

1. Transfer of Class Agreement (TOCA)
2. Transparency of Classification and Statutory Information
3. Procedure for Suspension of Class
4. Procedure for Employment and Control of Non-Exclusive Surveyors
5. Procedure for Surveyor Activity Monitoring
6. Procedure for Qualification and Training of Surveyors
7. Procedure for Responding to Port State Control

Of the above, explanation for the items 1, 2 and 3 which are considered to have direct connection with parties concerned and also NK's position with regard to these initiatives are presented below. Items 4, 5, 6 and 7 are concerned with internal procedures for such as strengthening control of society's surveyors, and for these outlines, please refer to the attached "OUTLINE" (from IACS brochure). Your kind understanding of the initiatives and cooperating with us will be very much appreciated.

1. Transfer of Class Agreement (TOCA)

<Outline>

This agreement has been in place for some years and has been further strengthened to eliminate the possibility of required surveys or repairs being avoided by owners changing Classification Society. The new provisions are designed to ensure that the gaining society accepts the vessel for its classification only after the losing society confirms that all outstanding recommendations or conditions of class previously issued against the vessel have been completed as specified by the losing society.

ClassNK

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<Implementation by NK>

Since NK had established and implemented detailed procedures regarding transfer of class including time and scope criteria on the exchange of transfer information between the owner and the societies involved, these procedures have been amended in accordance with the IACS' amendments, and implemented from 1 July 1995.

2. Transparency of Classification and Statutory Information

<Outline>

The transparency of survey status and other information to owners, governments and insurance companies is established with its scope criteria and measures.

<Implementation by NK>

In accordance with this initiative, NK has partly amended its regulation "Conditions of Services for Classification of Ships and Registration of Installations" as follows.

Confidentiality

All documents and information provided to the Society are treated as confidential by the Society and shall not, without the prior consent of the party providing such documents or information, be disclosed for any purpose other than that for which they are provided. The results of surveys conducted by the surveyors of the Society are treated in the same manner as the above documents.

The contents and/or copies of the documents, information and/or the survey results may be disclosed as required by court order, legal proceedings or adherence to the requests of a flag state or port state. Further, expiry dates of Certificate of Classification and/or Statutory Certificates and overdue outstanding recommendations may be disclosed to the P & I Club and hull underwriters for insurance purposes at their requests.

(Any information published in the Register of Ships of the Society, including due dates of periodical surveys, are considered public information and available to any interested party.)

Information which is released to the insurance company, such as completion date of a special survey, docking survey, etc. can be extracted from the register book. Conditions of class/recommendations and registered statutory recommendations will be released subject to the acceptance by owners or through a special clause in the insurance contract, except for overdue survey items. Seeing that the obligation of the assured to ensure compliance with recommendations by the dates required by the classification society concerned has recently been enforced for insurance purposes under a hull insurance clause, the action to be taken by the classification society to release the overdue survey items may not cause any contention in shipowners' community, from the practical viewpoint.

3. Procedure for Suspension of Class

<Outline>

A unified procedure for automatic suspension of class in the event of a special survey or recommendations of class overdue has been established as follows.

- Classification will be automatically suspended in the event of a special survey not being completed by the due date. In exceptional circumstances, the society may grant a three-month extension.
- Classification will be automatically suspended if the vessel's annual survey is not completed within three months of the due date.
- Classification will be automatically suspended if any outstanding recommendation and/or condition of class is not fulfilled.
- Classification will be reinstated upon satisfactory completion of the surveys due or fulfillment of the recommendation and/or condition of class due. However, the vessel shall be disclassified from the date of suspension until the date class is reinstated.

<Implementation by NK>

In accordance with this procedure, NK has determined that the validity of certificate of classification is for five years for vessels other than Japanese flag and such certificate will be dealt with as follows.

The Society will issue a certificate of classification for a registered ship once a special survey has been completed. A provisional certificate of classification valid for five months will be issued prior to the issuance of the certificate of classification. The certificate of classification will be endorsed when an annual survey or intermediate survey has been finished to the satisfaction of the surveyor.

If the above endorsement is not done by the due date or the validity of a certificate of classification is expired, classification will be automatically suspended and the owner will be notified to it.

Samples of new forms of the Certificate of Classification and Provisional Certificate of Classification are attached hereto. The Society will not charge for issuance of a certificate of classification and provisional certificate of classification at the initial survey and special survey.

This procedure has been incorporated in NK's Regulations for the Classification and Registry of Ships and implemented from 1 January 1996.

For further information, please kindly contact the Business Coordination Department by letter or fax.

* * * * *



日本海事協会
NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

IMO Number

IMO 番号

CERTIFICATE OF CLASSIFICATION

船 級 証 書

Ship's Name
船名

Classification Number
船級番号

Registered Gross Tonnage
登録総トン数

Official Number
船舶番号

Moulded Dimensions; Length
主要寸法 長さ

Breadth
幅

Depth
深さ

Owner
所有者

Port of
Registry
船籍港

Flag
国籍

When Built
製造年月

Builders, Where Built
製造者、製造地

Main Propulsion Machinery; Description
主推進機関 種類

Number
数

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT the above ship having been surveyed for classification on _____ and found to be in compliance with the Society's Rules and Regulations has been assigned a class and entered in the Classification Register with the undermentioned Classification Character(s).

上記船舶は、本会の規則に基づいて _____ 年 _____ 月 _____ 日 船級登録のための検査を受け、規則に適合したと認められた。よって、上記船舶に船級を付与し、下記の符号を以って本会の船級登録原簿に登録したことを証明する。

Classification
Character(s):
船級符号

This Certificate is valid until _____
compliance with the Society's Rules and Regulations.

subject to continued

本証書は、上記船舶が本会の規則に適合していることを条件として _____ 年 _____ 月 _____ 日迄有効である。

Date of Issue
発行日

日本海事協会
NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Place of Issue Tokyo
発行場所 東京

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Special Survey _____ has been completed and the validity of this certificate is,
in accordance with the Regulations for the Classification and Registry of Ships, extended
until _____

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

The classification certificate shall become invalid and the ship's classification is automatically withdrawn/suspended if the annual survey is not completed within the prescribed time period and the classification certificate is not validly endorsed by the Surveyor for maintenance of class in accordance with the Rules.



日本海事協会
NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

IMO Number
IMO 番号

PROVISIONAL
CERTIFICATE OF CLASSIFICATION
仮 船 級 証 書

Ship's Name
船名

Classification Number
船級番号

Registered Gross Tonnage
登録総トン数

Official Number
船舶番号

Owner
所有者

Port of
Registry
船籍港

Flag
国籍

When Built
製造年月

Builders, Where Built
製造者、製造地

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT the above ship having been surveyed for classification on _____ in accordance with the Society's Rules and Regulations and reported by the Surveyors to be fit for classification, has been entered provisionally in the Classification Register with the under-mentioned Classification Character(s).

上記船舶は、本会の規則に基づいて 年 月 日 船級登録のための検査を受け、検査員により現状良好の旨報告せられた。よって、下記の符号を以って本会の船級登録原簿に仮に登録したことを証明する。

Classification
Character(s):
船級符号

This Certificate is valid until _____ subject to continued compliance with the Society's Rules and Regulations. However, the certificate shall become invalid upon issuance of the CERTIFICATE OF CLASSIFICATION.

本証書は、上記船舶が本会の規則に適合していることを条件として 年 月 日迄有効である。ただし、船級証書が発行されたときは、効力を失う。

Date of Issue
発行日

日本海事協会
NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Place of Issue
発行場所

Classification Number _____

The certificate to which this "Addendum to Classification Certificate" is attached is valid until
in accordance with the Regulations for the Classification and Registry
of Ships as amended on 1 January 1996.

Endorsement for Annual and Intermediate Surveys

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

Special Survey _____ has been completed and the validity of this certificate is,
in accordance with the Regulations for the Classification and Registry of Ships, extended
until _____

Place:

Date:

Signed : _____

Surveyor to NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

The classification certificate shall become invalid and the ship's classification is automatically withdrawn/suspended
if the annual survey is not completed within the prescribed time period and the classification certificate is not validly
endorsed by the Surveyor for maintenance of class in accordance with the Rules.

OUTLINE

(from IACS brochure)

1. Transfer of Class Agreement (TOCA)

IACS' Transfer of Class Agreement (TOCA) has been further strengthened to eliminate the possibility of required repairs being avoided by changing classification society.

Revisions to Procedure are designed to ensure that the gaining society accepts the vessel for its classification only after all overdue Surveys, Recommendations or Conditions of Class previously issued against the vessel have been completed as specified by the losing society.

The revised Agreement sets strict time limits for the exchange of transfer information between the Owner and Societies involved.

It came into force on 1 July 1995.

2. Transparency of Classification and Statutory Information

With effect from 1 January 1996, the IACS Societies have extended the range of Classification and Statutory information readily available, on proper request, to organisations with a legitimate interest in the maintenance of safe shipping standards and their application.

Beyond shipowners, these include Flag and Port States and insurance companies - all of whom already have the right of access to considerable classification and statutory certification information for ships in service.

The initiative seeks to increase information transparency, building on the value to shipping safety represented by IACS' weekly release of Transfer of Class data. This is already available to Port State Control Regimes, Port States and Underwriters. Its main objective is to simplify access to information, by sharing this "on request" rather than via the more complex route of ship visits or access to a Classification Society's Register.

From 1 January 1996, a much wider range of Ships in Operation Class Services data has become immediately accessible to Port State Control authorities, Hull Underwriters and P & I Associations. Similarly, on request, IACS Members will also provide Owners, Flag States, Port States and Insurance Companies with the result of audits of the particular Society's Quality Assurance System.

A definitive matrix of what information is available and the specific conditions of release is available on request.

3. Procedure for Suspension of Class

Revised IACS Procedures provide for Suspension of Class in the event of Special (5 year) Surveys, Annual Surveys or Recommendations/Conditions of Class falling overdue.

Classification will be automatically suspended in the event of the Special Survey not being completed or in hand as at the Certificate expiry date. In exceptional circumstances, the Society may grant a three-month extension.

Classification will also be suspended if the vessel's Annual Survey is not completed within three months of the due date. A vessel's class will also be subject to the Suspension Procedure if any outstanding Recommendation and/or Condition of Class is not fulfilled, unless postponed by society agreement, by an assigned date.

The Procedures came into force on 1 January 1996.

4. Procedure for Employment and Control of Non-Exclusive Surveyors

IACS Societies have agreed that the employment of non-exclusive surveyors should be limited to locations not easily served by exclusive surveyors. Additionally, on a case-by-case basis, non-exclusive surveyors may be required to assist with high workloads at exclusive offices.

Prior to engagement - which must be on a formal basis - the suitability and qualifications of a non-exclusive surveyor must be vetted by the retaining society, and approval given by a senior staff member authorised to do so.

Effective controls will be maintained through examination of Survey Report and verification of the surveyor's field activities at least every two years.

The Procedure came into force on 1 July 1995.

5. Procedure for Surveyor Activity Monitoring

Surveyor monitoring involves the re-inspection of a vessel during either its Periodical Survey or within three months of the survey, to determine if the surveyor has carried out the survey satisfactorily.

The IACS requirement is to verify the standards being applied in practice - i.e. consistent application of Rules and Process Instructions. The purpose is to detect, document and if necessary to take corrective actions. Documented monitoring will be undertaken on the work of each exclusive and non-exclusive surveyor at least once every two years.

The Procedure came into force on 1 July 1995.

6. Procedure for Qualification and Training of Surveyors

As a minimum, surveyors are required to hold a degree or equivalent from a recognised institution in a relevant field of engineering or physical science, or a qualification from a suitable marine/nautical institution, plus relevant seagoing experience as a certified ship's officer.

The surveyor will have to accumulate a minimum number of supervised surveys or days of supervised survey experience for each survey type or category. Access to the guidance of a senior surveyor and maintained documentary evidence of competency in the various work categories is mandatory, together with detailed personal records.

Local classification society management is responsible for ensuring the necessary training, experience and competence of individual surveyors before their tasking to unaccompanied assignments.

The Procedure came into force on 1 July 1995.

7. Procedure for Responding to Port State Control

This Procedure defines the co-operation and assistance to be given by surveyors during Port State Control inspections, including prompt and positive response to a Port State request for a surveyor to attend on board.

It includes liaison with Port State Control Authorities and Inspectors to ensure that class surveyors are called in as appropriate for any deficiencies found in Class or Statutory matters; to ensure uniformity of interpretation in Classification/Statutory matters and the provision to Inspectors of appropriate background information.

Surveyors are also responsible for liaison with both a vessel's Flag State and Owner's representative to ensure that both parties are aware of any safety-related actions taken in either a Class or Statutory context.

The procedure also covers the compilation of detailed comments on any Class/statutory-related deficiency and provision to the Flag State of an updated summary of any deficiencies and the actions taken.

The classification society will maintain a database to record and track deficiencies by type and ship, with IACS monitoring the relative performance of each Member Society.

The Procedure came into force on 1 July 1995.
