

Subject:

78 SOLAS PROTOCOL

- Bottom Inspection of
Non-Japanese Ships -

NK TECHNICAL INFORMATION

No. 7

Date: 16 March 1983

To Shipowners and Shipyards concerned,

78 SOLAS PROTOCOL requires inspection of the outside of the ship's bottom as a part of the intermediate survey required for the tankers of ten years of age and over.

Where a single intermediate survey is scheduled within a period of validity of the ship's Cargo Ship Safety Construction (SAFCON) certificate, which is normally the case, the intermediate survey is to be carried out within the range of six months either way of the half way date of the period of the full term validity of the SAFCON certificate.

The ship's bottom inspection is normally carried out in dry dock while the balance of the intermediate survey may be carried out afloat; and that the dry dock of a ship may have to be arranged before its planned date due to the operational requirement of the ship or unavoidable circumstances such as a casualty.

To avoid undue delays to ships, it is agreed at IMO (ex. IMCO) that the bottom inspection carried out in advance of the requested intermediate survey may be credited to the ship's due intermediate survey.

Therefore, the bottom inspection carried out at the intervals and requirements for the docking surveys of the Society's Classification survey applicable to non-Japanese ships may be credited to the ship's SAFCON intermediate survey the Society carries out on behalf of the ship's flag Government even if the bottom inspection was carried out in advance of the SAFCON intermediate survey due range. When credited at the intermediate survey, the ship's SAFCON certificate will be endorsed with the following statement:

"An inspection of the outside of the ship's bottom was conducted on (date) and is credited to the ship's intermediate survey. This certificate ceases to be valid unless another inspection of the outside of the ship's bottom is carried out before (above date plus 36 months) and this endorsement cancelled by the Administration".

This information is given to advise the owners and shipyards concerned about the introduction of the above new procedure.

