

RULES FOR HIGH SPEED CRAFT

GUIDANCE FOR HIGH SPEED CRAFT

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2016 AMENDMENT NO.2
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Rule No.87 / Notice No.87 27th December 2016
Resolved by Technical Committee on 27th July 2016
Approved by Board of Directors on 20th September 2016

ClassNK
NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

An asterisk (*) after the title of a requirement indicates that there is also relevant information in the corresponding Guidance.

RULES FOR HIGH SPEED CRAFT

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An asterisk (*) after the title of a requirement indicates that there is also relevant information in the corresponding Guidance.

“Rules for high speed craft” has been partly amended as follows:

Amendment 2-1

Part 1 GENERAL RULES

Chapter 1 GENERAL

1.1 General

Paragraph 1.1.8 has been added as follows.

1.1.8 Crafts Using Low-flashpoint Fuels

Crafts using low-flashpoint fuels are to comply with Part GF of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships.

1.2 Class Notations

1.2.4 Hull Construction and Equipment

Sub-paragraph -7 has been renumbered to Sub-paragraph -8, and Sub-paragraph -7 has been added as follows.

7 For crafts complying with the requirements of **Part GF of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships** applied in accordance with the requirements of **1.1.8**, the notation of *“Equipped for Use of Low-flashpoint Fuels”* (abbreviated to *EQ U LFF*) is affixed to the Classification Characters. Details of the used fuel are to be entered in the Classification Register as descriptive notes for the craft.

~~7~~**8** Otherwise specified in the above, for craft where deemed necessary by the Society, an appropriate notation may be affixed to the Classification Characters.

Chapter 2 DEFINITIONS

2.1 General

Paragraphs 2.1.49 to 2.1.52 have been renumbered to Paragraphs 2.1.50 to 2.1.53, and Paragraph 2.1.49 has been added as follows.

2.1.49 Crafts Using Low-flashpoint Fuels

Crafts using low-flashpoint fuels mean crafts which use low-flashpoint fuels as defined in 2.2.1-28, Part GF of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships.

2.1.4950 IMO

IMO means the International Maritime Organization.

2.1.5051 Anniversary Date

Anniversary date is the day and month of each year which will correspond to the date of expiry of the Classification Certificate, excluding the date of expiry of the Classification Certificate.

2.1.5152 Craft at Beginning Stage of Construction

A craft at beginning stage of construction is a craft whose keel is laid or a craft at a similar stage of construction. For this purpose, the term “a similar stage of construction” means the stage at which:

- (1) construction identifiable with a specific craft begins; and
- (2) assembly of that craft has commenced comprising at least 50 *tonnes* or 3% of the estimated mass of all structural material, whichever is less.

2.1.5253 Ro-ro Spaces

Ro-ro spaces are spaces not normally subdivided in any way and normally extending to either a substantial length or the entire length of the craft in which motor vehicles with fuel in their tanks for their own propulsion and/or goods (packaged or in bulk, in or on rail or road cars, vehicles (including road or rail tankers), trailers, containers, pallets, demountable tanks or in or on similar stowage units or other receptacles) can be loaded and unloaded, normally in a horizontal direction.

Part 2 CLASS SURVEYS

Chapter 2 CLASSIFICATION SURVEYS

2.1 Classification Survey during Construction

2.1.2 Submission of Plans and Documents for Approval*

Sub-paragraph -1 has been amended as follows.

1 When it is intended to build a craft to the classification with the Society, the following plans and documents are to be submitted for the approval by the Society before the work is commenced. Plans and documents may be subjected to examination by the Society prior to the submission of the application for the classification of the craft in accordance with the provision specified otherwise by the Society:

(1) Hull

((a) to (v) are omitted.)

(2) Machinery

((a) to (j) are omitted.)

(3) For crafts using low-flashpoint fuels, the plans and documents specified in 2.1.2-1(5), Part B of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships

~~(3)~~ Other plans and documents

In addition to the plans and documents as listed in (1) ~~and to (3)~~, other plans and documents may be required where deemed necessary by the Society.

Sub-paragraph -7 has been added as follows.

7 For crafts using low-flashpoint fuels, the operational procedures and emergency procedures specified in -3 and -4 of 17.2.2, Part GF of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships are to be submitted for Society approval.

2.1.3 Submission of Other Plans and Documents

1 When it is intended to build a craft to the classification with the Society, the following plans and documents are to be submitted in addition to those required in 2.1.2:

Sub-paragraph (7) has been renumbered to Sub-paragraph (8), and Sub-paragraph (7) has been added as follows.

(7) For crafts using low-flashpoint fuels, the plans and documents specified in 2.1.3-1(9), Part B of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships

~~(7)~~ Other plans and documents may be required where deemed necessary by the Society.

2.1.4 Presence of Surveyor

Sub-paragraph -3 has been renumbered to Sub-paragraph -4, and Sub-paragraph -3 has been added as follows.

3 For crafts using low-flashpoint fuels, the presence of the Surveyor is required for tests specified in Part GF of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships, in addition to the tests specified in -1 and -2.

Sub-paragraph -4 has been amended as follows.

34 The requirements specified in ~~-1 and -2~~ to **-3** may be modified having regard to the actual status of facilities, technical abilities and quality control at the works, except the case of sea trials.

2.1.6 Documents to be Maintained On Board*

1 At the completion of a classification survey, the Surveyor confirms that the following drawings, plans, manuals, lists, etc., as applicable, of finished version are on board.

Sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) have been amended as follows.

- (1) Documents approved by the Society or their copies
 - (a) Loading manuals (**1.4.2, Part 6**)
 - (b) Stability information booklets (**1.7.2, Part 8**)
 - (c) Operational procedures for crafts using low-flashpoint fuels (**17.2.2-3, Part GF of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships**)
 - (d) Emergency procedures for crafts using low-flashpoint fuels (**17.2.2-4, Part GF of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships**)
- (2) Other manuals, etc.
 - (a) Fire Control Plans (**3.5.1, Part 11**)
 - (b) A copy of the IGF Code or national regulations incorporating the provisions of the IGF Code (**17.2.2-1, Part GF of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships**)

2.2 Classification Survey of Craft Not Built under Survey

2.2.1 General

Sub-paragraph -4 has been added as follows.

4 For crafts using low-flashpoint fuels, the operational procedures and emergency procedures stipulated in -3 and -4 of **17.2.2, Part GF of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships** are to be submitted for Society approval.

Chapter 3 PERIODICAL SURVEYS AND PLANNED MACHINERY SURVEYS

Sections 3.11 to 3.13 have been added as follows.

3.11 Annual Surveys for Crafts Using Low-flashpoint Fuels

3.11.1 Requirements

At Annual Surveys for crafts using low-flashpoint fuels, the examinations specified in 3.6, Part B of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships are to be carried out, in addition to the examinations specified in 3.3 and 3.6.

3.12 Intermediate Surveys for Crafts Using Low-flashpoint Fuels

3.12.1 Requirements

At Intermediate Surveys for crafts using low-flashpoint fuels, the examinations specified in 4.6, Part B of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships are to be carried out, in addition to the examinations specified in 3.4 and 3.7.

3.13 Special Surveys for Crafts Using Low-flashpoint Fuels

3.13.1 Requirements

At Special Surveys for crafts using low-flashpoint fuels, the examinations specified in 5.6, Part B of the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships are to be carried out, in addition to the examinations specified in 3.5 and 3.8.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION (Amendment 2-1)

1. The effective date of the amendments is 1 January 2017.
2. Notwithstanding the amendments to the Rules, the current requirements apply to ships other than ships that fall under the following:
 - (1) for which the building contract is placed on or after the effective date; or
 - (2) in the absence of a building contract, the keels of which are laid or which are at *a similar stage of construction* on or after 1 July 2017; or(Note) The term “*a similar stage of construction*” means the stage at which the construction identifiable with a specific ship begins and the assembly of that ship has commenced comprising at least 50 tonnes or 3% of the estimated mass of all structural material, whichever is the less.
 - (3) the delivery of which is on or after 1 January 2021.
3. Notwithstanding the provision of preceding 2., the amendments to the Rules apply to the ships that fall under the following:
 - (1) which convert to using low-flashpoint fuels on or after the effective date; or
 - (2) which, on or after the effective date, undertake to use low-flashpoint fuels different from those which it was originally approved to use before the effective date.

Part 2 CLASS SURVEYS

Chapter 2 CLASSIFICATION SURVEYS

2.1 Classification Survey during Construction

2.1.2 Submission of Plans and Documents for Approval*

1 When it is intended to build a craft to the classification with the Society, the following plans and documents are to be submitted for the approval by the Society before the work is commenced. Plans and documents may be subjected to examination by the Society prior to the submission of the application for the classification of the craft in accordance with the provision specified otherwise by the Society:

(2) Machinery

Sub-paragraph (b) has been amended as follows.

(b) Main and auxiliary engines (including their accessories):

i) Diesel engines

Plans and data specified in **2.1.3, Part 9** of the Rules as well as documents showing specifications of louvers for emergency generator rooms and closing appliances of ventilators fitted to the rooms (if they are of power-operated type.)

ii) Gas turbines

Plans and data specified in **3.1.2, Part 9** of the Rules

Part 7 EQUIPMENT AND PAINTING

Chapter 3 BULWARKS, GUARDRAILS, FREEING ARRANGEMENTS, CARGO PORTS AND OTHER SIMILAR OPENINGS, SIDE SCUTTLES, VENTILATORS AND GANGWAYS

3.6 Ventilators

3.6.3 Closing Appliances*

1 Ventilators to machinery and cargo spaces are to be provided with means for closing openings capable of being operated from outside the spaces in case of a fire.

2 All ventilator openings on exposed decks are to be provided with efficient weathertight closing appliances. Where the coaming of any ventilator extends to more than 4.5 *metres* above the surface of the deck in Position I or more than 2.3 *metres* above the surface of the deck in Position II specified in **2.1.2** of this Part, such closing appliances may be omitted unless requirement in **-1**.

Sub-paragraph -3 has been added as follows.

3 In cases where ventilation louvers are fitted to emergency generator rooms or closing appliances are fitted to ventilators serving emergency generator rooms, the requirements specified in the **1.2.5-2, Part 9** are to be satisfied.

Part 9 MACHINERY INSTALLATIONS

Chapter 1 GENERAL

1.2 General Requirements for Machinery Installations

Paragraph 1.2.5 has been amended as follows.

1.2.5 Ventilating Systems for Machinery Spaces*

1 Machinery spaces are to be adequately ventilated so as to ensure that when machinery or boilers therein are operating at full power, an adequate supply of air is maintained to the spaces for the safety and comfort of personnel, for the operation of the machinery and for the prevention of accumulation of flammable gases.

2 In cases where ventilation louvers are fitted to emergency generator rooms or closing appliances are fitted to ventilators serving emergency generator rooms, such louvers or closing appliances are to comply with the requirements specified in the following (1) to (4):

- (1) Louvers and closing appliances may either be hand-operated or power-operated (hydraulic, pneumatic or electric) and are to be operable under fire conditions.
- (2) Hand-operated louvers and closing appliances are to comply with the following (a) and (b):
 - (a) Louvers and closing appliances are to be kept open during normal operation of the vessel; and
 - (b) Corresponding instruction plates are to be provided at the location where hand-operation is provided.
- (3) Power-operated louvers and closing appliances are to comply with the following (a) to (c):
 - (a) Louvers and closing appliances are to be of a fail-to-open type;
 - (b) Closed louvers and closing appliances are acceptable during normal operation of the vessel; and
 - (c) Power-operated louvers and closing appliances are to open automatically whenever the emergency generator is starting or in operation.
- (4) Ventilation openings, louvers and closing appliances are to comply with the following (a) to (c):
 - (a) It is to be possible to close ventilation openings by a manual operation from a clearly marked safe position outside the space where the closing operation can be easily confirmed;
 - (b) The louver status (open or closed) is to be indicated at the position of the manual operation specified in (a) above; and
 - (c) Closing of the louvers and closing appliances is not to be possible from any other remote position than the position of manual operation specified in (a) above.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION (Amendment 2-2)

1. The effective date of the amendments is 1 January 2017.
2. Notwithstanding the amendments to the Rules, the current requirements apply to ships for which the date of contract for construction* is before the effective date.
* “contract for construction” is defined in the latest version of IACS Procedural Requirement (PR) No.29.

IACS PR No.29 (Rev.0, July 2009)

1. The date of “contract for construction” of a vessel is the date on which the contract to build the vessel is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. This date and the construction numbers (i.e. hull numbers) of all the vessels included in the contract are to be declared to the classification society by the party applying for the assignment of class to a newbuilding.
2. The date of “contract for construction” of a series of vessels, including specified optional vessels for which the option is ultimately exercised, is the date on which the contract to build the series is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder.
For the purpose of this Procedural Requirement, vessels built under a single contract for construction are considered a “series of vessels” if they are built to the same approved plans for classification purposes. However, vessels within a series may have design alterations from the original design provided:
 - (1) such alterations do not affect matters related to classification, or
 - (2) If the alterations are subject to classification requirements, these alterations are to comply with the classification requirements in effect on the date on which the alterations are contracted between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder or, in the absence of the alteration contract, comply with the classification requirements in effect on the date on which the alterations are submitted to the Society for approval.The optional vessels will be considered part of the same series of vessels if the option is exercised not later than 1 year after the contract to build the series was signed.
3. If a contract for construction is later amended to include additional vessels or additional options, the date of “contract for construction” for such vessels is the date on which the amendment to the contract, is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. The amendment to the contract is to be considered as a “new contract” to which **1.** and **2.** above apply.
4. If a contract for construction is amended to change the ship type, the date of “contract for construction” of this modified vessel, or vessels, is the date on which revised contract or new contract is signed between the Owner, or Owners, and the shipbuilder.

Note:

This Procedural Requirement applies from 1 July 2009.

Part 2 CLASS SURVEYS

Chapter 3 PERIODICAL SURVEYS AND PLANNED MACHINERY SURVEYS

3.6 Annual Surveys for Machinery

Paragraph 3.6.1 has been amended as follows.

3.6.1 Requirements for Annual Surveys

At each Annual Survey for Machinery, a general examination of the whole machinery in the engine room and the following ~~examinations~~inspections ~~(1) through to (6)~~ ~~(7)~~ are to be carried out; ((1) to (6) are omitted.)

(7) For ships affixed with the notation “APSS · O” or “APSS · W” which periodically perform oil analysis or freshwater sample tests, a general examination of the shafting system and a review of all the condition monitoring data available on board the ship are to be carried out in order to ascertain that the system is well maintained.

3.7 Intermediate Surveys for Machinery

Paragraph 3.7.1 has been amended as follows.

3.7.1 General Examinations

At each Intermediate Survey for Machinery, the general examinations and inspections specified in 3.6.1 are to be carried out.

3.8 Special Surveys for Machinery

3.8.1 General Examinations

Sub-paragraph -1 has been amended as follows.

1 At each Special Surveys for Machinery, the general examinations and inspections specified in 3.7.1 are to be carried out.

3.9 Propeller Shaft and Stern Tube Shaft Surveys

3.9.4 Partial Surveys

Sub-paragraph -1 has been amended as follows.

1 At a Partial Survey for propeller shafts Kind 1, the examinations specified in the following **(1)** ~~through~~ **(3)** are to be carried out.

- (1) Examinations as specified in **3.9.3-1(2), (6), (9), (12)** and **(13)** as well as the following **(a)** to **(dc)**:
 - (a) Checking and recording measurements of the bearing wear down of the propeller shaft or the stern tube shaft at the after bearing of the stern tube
 - ~~(b) Verification that the propeller is free of damages which may cause the propeller to be out of balance~~
 - ~~(b)~~ Seal liner found to be or placed in a satisfactory condition
 - ~~(c)~~ Verification of the satisfactory conditions of inboard and outboard seals
- (2) Visual inspection of all accessible parts of the shafting system
- (3) Verification that the main engines have not been operated within the barred speed range for torsional vibration.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION (Amendment 2-3)

1. The effective date of the amendments is 1 January 2017.
2. Notwithstanding the amendments to the Rules, the current requirements apply to ships other than ships the delivery of which is on or after 1 January 2016 until the first propeller shaft and stern tube shaft survey scheduled on or after 1 January 2016.

GUIDANCE FOR HIGH SPEED CRAFT

GUIDANCE

2016 AMENDMENT NO.2

Notice No.87 27th December 2016

Resolved by Technical Committee on 27th July 2016

“Guidance for high speed craft” has been partly amended as follows:

Amendment 2-1

Part 7 EQUIPMENT AND PAINTING

Chapter 2 HATCHWAYS, MACHINERY SPACE OPENINGS AND OTHER DECK OPENING

Section 2.1 has been added as follows.

2.1 General

2.1.2 Position of Exposed Deck Openings

1 In the application of the requirements of **2.1.2, Part 7** of the Rules, “superstructure decks” include top decks of superstructures, deckhouses, companionways and other similar deck structures.

2 “Exposed raised quarter decks” in the definition of Position I specified in **2.1.2, Part 7** of the Rules refers to exposed superstructure decks lower than h_s specified in **V2.2.1, Part V of the Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships** above the freeboard deck.

3 “Exposed superstructure decks” in the definition of Position I specified in **2.1.2, Part 7** of the Rules refers to exposed superstructure decks lower than $2h_s$ specified in **V2.2.1, Part V of the Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships** above the freeboard deck.

4 “Exposed superstructure decks located at least one standard height of superstructure above the freeboard deck” in the definition of Position II specified in **2.1.2, Part 7** of the Rules refers to exposed superstructure decks located at least h_s specified in **V2.2.1, Part V of the Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships** above the freeboard deck and lower than $2h_s$ specified in **V2.2.1, Part V of the Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships** above the freeboard deck.

5 “Exposed superstructure decks located at least two standard heights of superstructure above the freeboard deck” in the definition of Position II specified in **2.1.2, Part 7** of the Rules refers to exposed superstructure decks located at least $2h_s$ specified in **V2.2.1, Part V of the Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships** above the freeboard deck and lower than $3h_s$ specified in **V2.2.1, Part V of the Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships** above the freeboard deck.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION (Amendment 2-1)

1. The effective date of the amendments is 27 December 2016.
2. Notwithstanding the amendments to the Guidance, the current requirements apply to ships for which the date of contract for construction is before the effective date.

Part 1 GENERAL RULES

Chapter 2 DEFINITIONS

2.1 General

Paragraph 2.1.28 has been added as follows.

2.1.28 Light Weight

With respect to the provisions of 2.1.28, Part 1 of the Rules, the weight of mediums on board for the fixed firefighting systems (e.g. freshwater, CO₂, dry chemical powder, foam concentrate, etc.) is to be included in the light weight.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION (Amendment 2-2)

1. The effective date of the amendments is 1 January 2017.
2. Notwithstanding the amendments to the Guidance, the current requirements apply to ships for which the date of contract for construction* is before the effective date.
* “contract for construction” is defined in the latest version of IACS Procedural Requirement (PR) No.29.

IACS PR No.29 (Rev.0, July 2009)

1. The date of “contract for construction” of a vessel is the date on which the contract to build the vessel is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. This date and the construction numbers (i.e. hull numbers) of all the vessels included in the contract are to be declared to the classification society by the party applying for the assignment of class to a newbuilding.
2. The date of “contract for construction” of a series of vessels, including specified optional vessels for which the option is ultimately exercised, is the date on which the contract to build the series is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. For the purpose of this Procedural Requirement, vessels built under a single contract for construction are considered a “series of vessels” if they are built to the same approved plans for classification purposes. However, vessels within a series may have design alterations from the original design provided:
 - (1) such alterations do not affect matters related to classification, or
 - (2) If the alterations are subject to classification requirements, these alterations are to comply with the classification requirements in effect on the date on which the alterations are contracted between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder or, in the absence of the alteration contract, comply with the classification requirements in effect on the date on which the alterations are submitted to the Society for approval.The optional vessels will be considered part of the same series of vessels if the option is exercised not later than 1 year after the contract to build the series was signed.
3. If a contract for construction is later amended to include additional vessels or additional options, the date of “contract for construction” for such vessels is the date on which the amendment to the contract, is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. The amendment to the contract is to be considered as a “new contract” to which 1. and 2. above apply.
4. If a contract for construction is amended to change the ship type, the date of “contract for construction” of this modified vessel, or vessels, is the date on which revised contract or new contract is signed between the Owner, or Owners, and the shipbuilder.

Note:

This Procedural Requirement applies from 1 July 2009.

Part 2 CLASS SURVEYS

Chapter 1 GENERAL

1.1 Surveys

1.1.3 Occasional Surveys

For the occasional surveys specified in **1.1.3(5), Part 2 of the Rules**, the following is to be complied with:

(1) Carriage of Dangerous Goods

For craft engaged on international voyages, with cargo spaces intended for the carriage of packaged dangerous goods, which had been at the beginning stage of construction on or after 1 July 2002 but before 1 January 2011, a survey is to be carried out to verify compliance with requirement 7.13.3 in accordance with tables 7.17-1 and 7.17-3, as specified in Chapter 7 (including the amendments by *IMO Resolution MSC.271(85)*) of “*THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF SAFETY FOR HIGH SPEED CRAFT (IMO Resolution MSC.97(73))*” by the first special survey of the ship on or after 1 January 2011.

(2) Portable Atmosphere Testing Instruments for Enclosed Spaces

For craft of not less than 500 *gross tonnage* engaged on international voyages which had been at the beginning stage of construction before 1 July 2016, it is to be verified that portable atmosphere testing instruments complying with **1.2.1, Part 14 of the Rules** are provided on board by the first survey on or after 1 July 2016.

Sub-paragraph (3) has been added as follows.

(3) Crafts Using Low-flashpoint Fuels

For crafts that fall under the following (a) or (b), a survey is to be carried out to verify compliance with the requirements of **1.1.9, Part 1 of the Rules** before using low-flashpoint fuels or undertaking to use below specified different low-flashpoint fuels.

(a) Crafts which convert to using low-flashpoint fuels on or after 1 January 2017; or

(b) Crafts which, on or after 1 January 2017, undertake to use low-flashpoint fuels different from those which it was originally approved to use before 1 January 2017.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION (Amendment 2-3)

1. The effective date of the amendments is 1 January 2017.

Part 9 MACHINERY INSTALLATIONS

Chapter 1 GENERAL

1.2 General Requirements for Machinery Installations

Paragraph 1.2.5 has been added as follows.

1.2.5 Ventilating Systems for Machinery Spaces

The wording “louvers” specified in **1.2.5-2, Part 9 of the Rules** means the following:

- (1) Those which are hand-operated;
- (2) Those which are power-operated;
- (3) Those which are of fixed type with a hand-operated closing door; and
- (4) Those which are of fixed type with an automatic closing door.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION (Amendment 2-4)

1. The effective date of the amendments is 1 January 2017.
2. Notwithstanding the amendments to the Guidance, the current requirements apply to ships for which the date of contract for construction* is before the effective date.
* “contract for construction” is defined in the latest version of IACS Procedural Requirement (PR) No.29.

IACS PR No.29 (Rev.0, July 2009)

1. The date of “contract for construction” of a vessel is the date on which the contract to build the vessel is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. This date and the construction numbers (i.e. hull numbers) of all the vessels included in the contract are to be declared to the classification society by the party applying for the assignment of class to a newbuilding.
2. The date of “contract for construction” of a series of vessels, including specified optional vessels for which the option is ultimately exercised, is the date on which the contract to build the series is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder.
For the purpose of this Procedural Requirement, vessels built under a single contract for construction are considered a “series of vessels” if they are built to the same approved plans for classification purposes. However, vessels within a series may have design alterations from the original design provided:
 - (1) such alterations do not affect matters related to classification, or
 - (2) If the alterations are subject to classification requirements, these alterations are to comply with the classification requirements in effect on the date on which the alterations are contracted between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder or, in the absence of the alteration contract, comply with the classification requirements in effect on the date on which the alterations are submitted to the Society for approval.The optional vessels will be considered part of the same series of vessels if the option is exercised not later than 1 year after the contract to build the series was signed.
3. If a contract for construction is later amended to include additional vessels or additional options, the date of “contract for construction” for such vessels is the date on which the amendment to the contract, is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. The amendment to the contract is to be considered as a “new contract” to which **1.** and **2.** above apply.
4. If a contract for construction is amended to change the ship type, the date of “contract for construction” of this modified vessel, or vessels, is the date on which revised contract or new contract is signed between the Owner, or Owners, and the shipbuilder.

Note:

This Procedural Requirement applies from 1 July 2009.