Propeller Shaft Survey for the Ships Adopting Propeller Shaft Condition Monitoring System (PSCM)

Amended Rules and Guidance

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B
Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B

Reason for Amendment

In the current rules related to the propeller shaft surveys, the drawing out of propeller shafts can be dispensed with, for those ships which are adopting the Propeller Shaft Condition Monitoring System (hereinafter referred to as PSCM) provided that the results of any system checks are normal.

On the other hand, crack detection examinations for the forward portions of propeller shafts, visual examinations of propeller boss bores in way of propeller shaft taper sections, etc. are required, regardless of whether ships adopt PSCM or not.

In recent years, the number of ships in which the distance between their propellers and their rudder plates is short has been increasing. This is for design purposes to improve propulsive performance and energy saving. Because it is difficult to sufficiently draw out the propellers from the propeller shafts of such ships the entire propeller boss bores of these ships cannot be examined without drawing out the propeller shaft toward the engine room. Consequently, these ships need to draw out their propeller shaft even though they have adopted PSCM.

Taking into account that the number of ships of such design are expected to increase more and more in the future, the requirements for propeller shaft surveys have been amended so that ships of such design which adopt PSCM can be surveyed on the condition that the propellers of these ships are drawn out from their propeller shaft as far as practicable.

Outline of Amendment

The requirements for the propeller shaft survey for those ships in which the distance between their propellers and their rudder plates is short and which are adopting PSCM have been amended so that examinations of propeller boss bores may be partly dispensed with, provided that no sign of abnormality, such as any slippage between shafts and propellers has been confirmed.