

Close-up Surveys and Thickness Measurements carried out at Periodical Surveys

Amended Rules

Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B

Reason for Amendment

Requirements for the hatch covers and hatch coamings of bulk carriers and other cargo ships are specified in IACS Unified Requirements (UR) S21 and S21A. The scantling requirements in these URs are based upon the principle that net scantlings, the subtraction of corrosion additions from gross thicknesses, should comply with the requirements, and that criteria related to renewal due to corrosion are to correspond to this principle. In relation to these renewal criteria, coatings are required to be maintained in good condition or thickness measurements are to be carried out annually in order to prevent or verify any further spread of corrosion where substantial corrosion areas were identified during a previous survey.

On the other hand, the Rules for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part B required thickness measurements of substantial corrosion areas identified during a previous survey to be carried out for both hatch covers and hatch coamings regardless of whether coating maintenance had been conducted. Therefore, Part B of the Rules was amended to make it consistent with the aforementioned IACS URs and thickness measurements may be dispensed with when coatings are maintained in good condition.

In addition to the above, although Part B of the Rules specifies that close-up surveys and thickness measurements may be reduced in scope when certain required conditions are met, the degree of said reduction was unclear. Therefore, relevant requirements were amended in reference to IACS UR Z7 and Z10 Series, which specify requirements related to the hull surveys of ships in service, in order to clarify the extent in which close-up surveys and thickness measurements may be reduced.

Outline of Amendment

- (1) Amended requirements related to thickness measurements for the hatch covers and hatch coamings at annual surveys to specify that thickness measurements may be dispensed with when coatings are maintained in good condition.
- (2) Amended requirements related to close-up surveys and thickness measurements carried out at periodical surveys to clarify that the extent of these surveys and measurements may be reduced to a degree that is sufficient to confirm the actual average condition of the structure in cases where required conditions are met.