Welding for Independent Tanks of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk

Amended Guidance

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part N

Reason for Amendment

With respect to independent tanks of ships carrying liquefied gases in bulk, common practice for the welding between the tank shell and suction well is to use full penetration tee-welds, whereas the common practice for welding between the tank shell and centreline bulkhead in bi-lobe tanks is to use full penetration cruciform welds. The use of these two welding methods, however, is not clearly specified in latest version on the IGC Code.

For this reason, IACS adopted unified interpretations (UI) GC20 and GC21 in April 2019 so as to clarify the application of the above methods.

Accordingly, relevant requirements were amended based upon UI GC20 and GC21.

Outline of Amendment

(1) Clarified that the welding between tank shells and suction wells may be carried out using the full penetration tee-weld method in the case of independent tanks of ships carrying liquefied gases in bulk.
(2) Clarified that the welding between tank shells and centreline bulkheads may be carried out using the full penetration cruciform weld method in the case of independent bi-lobe tanks of ships carrying liquefied gases in bulk.

Amended Requirements

Guidance for the Survey and Construction of Steel Ships Part N: N4.20.1