Subject

Change of ships which are categorized as "Bulk carrier" on Safety Construction (SC) Certificate(s) and Safety Equipment (SE) Certificate(s) because of the clarification of term "Bulk carrier"

To whom it may concern

The ships which are categorized as “Bulk carrier” in SOLAS have already been provided in ClassNK Technical Information No. TEC-0808 of 1st April 2010.

ClassNK has confirmed that Cayman flagged ships are required to apply the IMO resolution MSC.277(85) regarding the definition of "Bulk carrier" in SOLAS.
Cayman flagged ships constructed on or after 1 July 2006 and have a notation of "BC-XII" affixed to the Classification Characters, the description of "Type of Ship" on the Safety Construction (SC) Certificate(s) and Safety Equipment (SE) Certificate(s) are to be categorized as "Bulk carrier".

The said ClassNK Technical Information No. TEC-0808 is thus revoked, accordingly.

In addition, the other instructions mentioned in ClassNK Technical Information No. TEC-0808 are not changed as follows:

1. General

Clarification of the definition of “Bulk carrier” in SOLAS has been adopted at IMO resolution MSC.277(85), but this resolution is not mandatory one. Therefore, ClassNK made a judgment that a ship categorized as “Bulk carrier” on the SC and SE Certificate(s) are to be changed according to the mandatory resolution MSC.170(79) which clarifies the definition of "Bulk carrier".

A ship which should be categorized as "Bulk carrier" on the SC and SE Certificate(s) would be changed from A) to B) as below.

A) a ship which is constructed generally with single deck, Top-side tanks and hopper side tanks in cargo spaces, and is intended primarily to carry dry cargo in bulk, and includes such types as ore carriers and combination carriers. - Reg.1.6/IX

B) a ship which is intended primarily to carry dry cargo in bulk, including such types as ore carriers and combination carriers. - Reg.1.1/XII

(To be continued)
2. Application
   (1) For ships which were constructed on or after 1 July 2006 and have a notation of "BC-XII" affixed to the Classification Characters, the description of "Type of Ship" on the SC and SE Certificate(s) are to be changed as "Bulk carrier", hereafter. Therefore, not only box type bulk carriers but also chip carriers, etc., which have "BC-XII" Notation Characters, are newly categorized as "Bulk carrier" (refer to the Attachment 1). However, the Flag Administrations shown in below (2) declare that only the ships defined by the above 1.A) should be categorized as "Bulk carrier" on the SC and SE Certificate(s), as before.
   
   (2) Flag Administrations, who adopt the definition in the above 1.A), as before.
      - Qatar
      - St. Vincent & the Grenadines
      - Vietnam

3. Statement for Non-compliance of the requirements for bulk carrier as specified in SOLAS Chap.IX
   The following requirements of SOLAS are to be applied to "Bulk carriers" according to the definition in the above 1.A), because these requirements refer to the definition of SOLAS Chap.IX. Therefore, ClassNK shall issue the statement for Non-compliance of these requirements at the same time of issuance of the SC and SE Certificate(s).
   - Permanent Means of Access - Reg.II-1/3-6
   - Free-fall lifeboats - Reg.III/31.1.8
   - Enhanced Survey Program - Reg.XI-1/2

For any questions about the above, please contact:

[Matters on the handling the SC and SE Certificate(s) or statement]
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Attachment:
1. Ships type which is categorized as " Bulk carrier" by the definition of SOLAS Chap.XII
2. Statement for Non-compliance of the requirement for bulk carrier as specified in SOLAS Chap.IX
Regardless of construction type, a ship which is intended primarily to carry dry cargo in bulk is categorized as “Bulk carrier” in SOLAS.
Statement

M.S.  “NK STAR”

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<th>Port of Registry</th>
<th>: PANAMA</th>
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<tr>
<td>Distinctive Number or letters</td>
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<td>Gross Tonnage</td>
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This is to certify that the subject ship does not fall under the definition of “bulk carrier” as specified in SOLAS regulation IX/1.6 and therefore is not subject to compliance with the following SOLAS requirements applicable to such “bulk carriers”:

- Permanent Means of Access (SOLAS regulation II-1/3-6);
- Installation of Free-fall Lifeboat (SOLAS regulation III/31.1.8); and
- Enhanced Survey Programme (SOLAS regulation XI-1/2).

This is to notify that the subject ship, however, falls under the definition of “bulk carrier” as specified in SOLAS regulation XII/1.1 (Resolution MSC.170(79)) and complies with the applicable SOLAS requirements, and therefore “bulk carrier” is indicated in “type of ship” of the Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate and Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate.

NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI

(Signature)  
(N. Kaiji), Surveyor

Notes:

Cargo Ship Safety Construction (SC) and Safety Equipment (SE) Certificates:
The descriptions “bulk carrier” in the ship’s SC and SE Certificates are made based on the definition of SOLAS regulations II-1/2.14 and XII/1.6 which were added/amended by Resolution MSC.170(79).

Safety Management Certificate:
The description “bulk carrier” in the ship’s Safety Management Certificate is made based on the definition of SOLAS regulation IX/1.6.
**Definition the term of “bulk carrier” in SOLAS**

- **SOLAS regulation IX/1.6 (Resolution 1 adopted by the 1994 SOLAS Conference)**
  
  *Bulk carrier* means a ship which is constructed generally with single deck, top-side tanks and hopper side tanks in cargo spaces, and is intended primarily to carry dry cargo in bulk, and includes such type as ore carriers and combination carriers.

- **Interpretation of the definition of “bulk carrier”, as given in chapter IX of SOLAS 1974, as amended in 1994 (Resolution 6 adopted by the 1997 SOLAS Conference)**

  “URGES SOLAS Contracting Governments to interpret the definition of the term “bulk carrier”, given in regulation IX/1.6, for the purpose of the application of SOLAS regulation IX/2.1.2 and chapter XII to mean:
  
  - ships constructed with single deck, top-side tanks and hopper side tanks in cargo spaces, and is intended primarily to carry dry cargo in bulk; or
  - ore carriers; or
  - combination carriers;”

- **SOLAS regulation XII/1.1 (before the amendments by Resolution MSC.170(79)*)**

  *Bulk carrier* means a bulk carrier as defined in regulation IX/1.6.

- **SOLAS regulation XII/1.1 (Resolution MSC.170(79)*)**

  *Bulk carrier* means a ship which is intended primarily to carry dry cargo in bulk including such type as ore carriers and combination carriers.

- **SOLAS regulation II-1/2.14 (Resolution MSC.170(79)*)**

  *Bulk carrier* means a bulk carrier as defined in regulation XII/1.1.

* The amendments to SOLAS by Resolution MSC.170(79) apply to ships constructed on or after 1 July 2006.

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**Requirements applicable to ships which fall under the definition of “bulk carrier” as specified in SOLAS regulation IX/1.6**

- **Permanent Means of Access (SOLAS regulation II-1/3-6.1.1)**

  This regulation applies to oil tankers of 500 gross tonnages and over and *bulk carriers*, as defined in regulation IX/1, of 20,000 gross tonnages and over, constructed on or after 1 January 2006.

- **Installation of Free-fall Lifeboat (SOLAS regulation II/31.1.8)**

  *Bulk carriers* as defined in regulation IX/1.6 constructed on or after 1 July 2006 shall comply with the requirements of paragraph 1.2.

- **Enhanced Survey Programme (SOLAS regulation XI-1/2)**

  *Bulk carriers* as defined in regulation IX/1.6 and oil tankers as defined in regulation II-1/2.12 shall be subject to an enhanced survey programme of inspections in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the Assembly of the Organization by resolution A.744.

- **Management for the safe operation of ship (SOLAS regulation IX/1.6)**

  *Bulk carrier* means a ship which is constructed generally with single deck, top-side tanks and hopper side tanks in cargo spaces, and is intended primarily to carry dry cargo in bulk, and includes such type as ore carriers and combination carriers.