



# RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING

**CIRCULAR LETTER**

**No. 340-04-1565c**

dated 26.05.2021

Re:

amendments to the Rules for the Classification Surveys of Ships in Service, 2021, ND No. 2-020101-012-E in connection with entry into force of IACS Unified Requirements (UR) Z17 (Rev.15 Oct 2020), Z18 (Rev.9 Apr 2020), Z28 (Oct 2020)

Item(s) of supervision:

ships and offshore installations in service

Entry-into-force date:

**01.07.2021**

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Appendices:

Appendix 1: information on amendments introduced by the Circular Letter

Appendix 2: text of amendments to Part I "General Provisions", Part II "Survey Schedule and Scope" and Part III "Additional Surveys of Ships Depending on their Purpose and Hull Material"

Director General

Konstantin G. Palnikov

Text of CL:

We hereby inform that the Rules for the Classification Surveys of Ships in Service, 2021 shall be amended as specified in the Appendices to the Circular Letter.

It is necessary to do the following:

1. Familiarize the RS surveyors and interested organizations in the area of the RS Branch Offices' activity with the content of the Circular Letter.
2. Apply the provisions of the Circular Letter during survey of ships and offshore installations in service.

List of the amended and/or introduced paras/chapters/sections:

Part I: para 7.1.4

Part II: Table 2.1.1-1, paras 2.2.3.4, 2.2.3.6 — 2.2.3.8.9, 2.2.6.2, 2.2.7.8, 2.4.3.2.3.1, 2.4.3.6.3, 2.4.3.6.4 — 2.4.3.6.6, 2.4.5.5.17 and 2.4.7.6

Part III: paras 8.2.2.2.3, 9.3.2, 19.2.2.8.7 and 19.2.3.7.6.5

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**Information on amendments introduced by the Circular Letter  
(for inclusion in the Revision History to the RS Publication)**

Nos.	Amended paras/chapters/sections	Information on amendments	Number and date of the Circular Letter	Entry-into-force date
1	Part I, para 7.1.4	New service with code 22027000 has been introduced in connection with entry into force of IACS UR Z17 (Rev.15 Oct 2020)	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
2	Part II, Table 2.1.1-1	In item 2.5, the reference containing requirements for the scope of survey of the towing winch has been specified. In items 2.5.1 — 2.5.4, the requirements concerning the scope of annual and intermediate surveys of towing equipment have been specified. New item 4.6.7.1 containing requirements for the scope of survey of towing winch emergency release systems has been introduced	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
3	Part II, para 2.2.3.4	Para has been completely revised considering the experience of technical supervision. Requirements for annual survey of towing winch emergency release systems have been introduced in connection with entry into force of IACS UR Z18 (Rev. 9 Apr 2020)	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
4	Part II, paras 2.2.3.6 — 2.2.3.8.9	Paras 2.2.3.6 and 2.2.3.6.1 have been deleted in connection with transfer of their requirements to 2.2.3.4. Existing paras 2.2.3.7 — 2.2.3.8.9 have been renumbered 2.2.3.6 — 2.2.3.7.9 accordingly.	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
5	Part II, para 2.2.6.2	References to the applicable requirements have been specified	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021

Nos.	Amended paras/chapters/sections	Information on amendments	Number and date of the Circular Letter	Entry-into-force date
6	Part II, para 2.2.7.8	Para has been supplemented with the requirements for survey of cable transit seal systems in connection with entry into force of IACS UR Z28 (Oct 2020)	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
7	Part II, para 2.4.3.2.3.1	References to the applicable requirements have been specified	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
8	Part II, para 2.4.3.6.3	Requirements for survey of towing arrangements have been specified	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
9	Part II, paras 2.4.3.6.4 to 2.4.3.6.6	New para 2.4.3.6.4 containing requirements for special survey of towing winch emergency release system has been introduced in connection with entry into force of IACS UR Z18 (Rev.9 Apr 2020). Existing paras 2.4.3.6.4 and 2.4.3.6.5 have been renumbered 2.4.3.6.5 and 2.4.3.6.6 accordingly	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
10	Part II, para 2.4.5.5.17	Requirements have been specified in connection with entry into force of IACS UR Z18 (Rev.9 Apr 2020)	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
11	Part II, para 2.4.7.6	Para has been completely revised in connection with introduction of the requirements for survey of cable transit seal systems considering IACS UR Z28 (Oct 2020)	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
12	Part III, para 8.2.2.2.3	References to the applicable requirements have been specified	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
13	Part III, para 9.3.2	References to the applicable requirements have been specified	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021
14	Part III, para 19.2.2.8.7	New para containing requirements for survey of cable transit seal systems has been introduced in connection with entry into force of IACS UR Z28 (Oct 2020)	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021

Nos.	Amended paras/chapters/sections	Information on amendments	Number and date of the Circular Letter	Entry-into-force date
15	Part III, para 19.2.3.7.6.5	New para containing requirements for survey of cable transit seal systems has been introduced in connection with entry into force of IACS UR Z28 (Oct 2020)	340-04-1565c of 26.05.2021	01.07.2021

## RULES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION SURVEYS OF SHIPS IN SERVICE, 2021,

### ND No. 2-020101-012-E

#### PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### 7 SERVICES PROVIDED BY SERVICE SUPPLIERS AND USED BY RS SURVEYORS DURING SHIPS' SURVEY

1 **Para 7.1.4** is replaced by the following text:

**"7.1.4** Where the results of the services listed in 7.1.3.1, except those related to codes 22001001, 22002000, 22003000, 22025600 and 2202700 are used by the RS surveyors in making decisions affecting classification, then the service suppliers shall have recognition of the Register or Flag State MA (if applicable).

With respect to services with codes:

22001001 — Category I: firms engaged in thickness measurements under supervision of the RS surveyor on any ship types, other floating facilities (including floating docks, mobile offshore drilling units (MODUs), floating offshore oil-and-gas production units (FPU's)), and fixed offshore platforms (FOPs) regardless of their gross tonnage;

22002000 — Tightness testing of hatches, doors, etc. with ultrasonic equipment;

22003000 — In-water survey on ships and offshore installations by diver or remotely operated vehicle (ROV);

22025600 — Survey using remote inspection technique(s) (RIT) as an alternative means for close-up survey of the structure of ships and offshore installations;

22027000 — Cable transit seal systems inspection on ships and offshore installations, these service suppliers shall mandatorily have the RS recognition. In some cases (e.g. absence of the RS-recognized organization in the area of a ship submittal to survey, impossibility of a service supplier recognized by the Register to get to a place where the service shall be provided, etc.), the RS surveyor may give a permission to perform such works to an organization having a valid recognition of Flag State MA."

#### PART II. SURVEY SCHEDULE AND SCOPE

##### 2 PERIODICAL SURVEYS

2 **Table 2.1.1-1. Item 2.5** is replaced by the following text:

"

2.5	Towing arrangement	For the scope of towing winch survey, refer to 4.6.7, for the scope of the electric drive of towing winch survey, refer to 7.6.4 of this Table											
2.5.1	Tow hook (for tugs only)	C	C	OP	C	C	OP	C	C	OP	C	C	OP
2.5.2	Towing rails, towing arch, rope stoppers (for tugs only)	C	C	O	C	C	O	C	C	O	C	C	O
2.5.3	Bollards, towing bits, fairleads, chocks and tow lines	C	C	O	C	C	O	C	C	O	C	C	O
2.5.4	Emergency towing arrangements on ships	C	C	OP	C	C	OP	C	C	OP	C	C	OP

"

3 **Table 2.1.1-1. Item 4.6.7** is replaced by the following text:

4.6.7	Towing winch with arrangements:	P	P	OMP	P	P	OMP	P	P	OMP	P	P	OMP
.1	emergency release system	P 2.2.3.4.4	P 2.2.3.4.4	OPH 2.4.3.6.4	P 2.2.3.4.4	P 2.2.3.4.4	OPH 2.4.3.6.4	P 2.2.3.4.4	P 2.2.3.4.4	OPH 2.4.3.6.4	P 2.2.3.4.4	P 2.2.3.4.4	OPH 2.4.3.6.4

4 **Para 2.2.3.4** is replaced by the following text:

**"2.2.3.4 Towing arrangement.**

**2.2.3.4.1** Tow lines, towing equipment (including bollards, towing bitts, fairleads, chocks, stoppers and associated supporting structures) are subject to external examination.

**2.2.3.4.2** Marking of shipboard fittings for towing with the value of the safe towing load (TOW) and, in applicable cases, the safe working load (SWL) shall be checked.

**2.2.3.4.3** Special arrangement for tugs.

On tugs, in addition to that in 2.2.3.4.1 and 2.2.3.4.2, towing rails, towing arches, rope stoppers and the fastenings for securing these parts to the hull are examined. Tow hooks are subject to thorough examination. Towing winches and their equipment shall be examined and operationally tested.

**2.2.3.4.4** Towing winch emergency release systems.

**2.2.3.4.4.1** These requirements apply to survey of towing winch emergency release systems installed on tugs in accordance with the requirements of 6.6, Part IX "Machinery" of the Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships.

**2.2.3.4.4.2** Examinations and inspections of towing winch emergency release system shall be carried out in accordance with the documented instructions for annual surveys provided by the manufacturer and agreed by the Register. Availability of the instructions on board the ship as well as documentation containing performance capabilities and operating instructions of the system shall be verified prior to the commencement of the survey.

**2.2.3.4.4.3** Towing winch emergency release system shall be examined and operationally tested under no load condition in order to confirm its operability and satisfactory technical condition. Where practical, activation of the emergency release system may be confirmed by observation of the winch brake.

**2.2.3.4.4.4** The function of alarm system associated with the emergency release system shall be verified as far as practicable and reasonable.

**2.2.3.4.4.5** The means of emergency release of the tow line in the event of a blackout shall be functionally tested. Where alternative sources of energy are arranged for this purpose, the sources of energy shall be visually inspected and operationally tested.

**2.2.3.4.5** Special emergency towing arrangement for oil tankers, oil tankers (> 60 °C), combination carriers, gas carriers and chemical tankers.

Special emergency towing arrangement for the above types of ships of 20000 t deadweight and above, consisting of pick-up gear, towing pennants, chafing gear, fairleads, strongpoints, roller pedestal, is subject to external examination to make sure that it is ready for use.

**2.2.3.4.6** In determining the technical condition of the towing arrangement, the wear and defect rates given in 2.4.3.6.6 shall be taken into account."

5 **Paras 2.2.3.6 and 2.2.3.6.1** are deleted.

6 Existing **paras 2.2.3.7 — 2.2.3.8.9** are renumbered **2.2.3.6 — 2.2.3.7.9** accordingly.

7 **Para 2.2.6.2.** Reference to **paras 2.2.3.8.6 — 2.2.3.8.9** is replaced by the reference to **2.2.3.7.6 — 2.2.3.7.9**.

8 **Para 2.2.7.8** is replaced by the following text:

**"2.2.7.8** Cable transits through watertight and fire-resisting bulkheads and decks, as well as extra protection of cables shall be examined.

For ships contracted for construction on or after 1 July 2021, the RS surveyor shall review the Cable Transit Seal Systems Register in order to confirm that it has been properly maintained

by the shipowner (responsible personnel of the crew). Where there are records entered since the last annual survey of any repair, opening out/closing or alterations to the existing (installed) cable transits or installation of new cable transits, the satisfactory condition of their seal systems shall be confirmed by satisfactory results of review of these records and, if deemed necessary, examination of appropriate transits. The results of survey shall be recorded in the Cable Transit Seal Systems Register for each such cable transit."

9      **Para 2.4.3.2.3.1.** Reference to **para 2.2.3.8** is replaced by the reference to **2.2.3.7**.

10     **Para 2.4.3.6.3** is replaced by the following text:

"**2.4.3.6.3** Tow lines, towing equipment (including bollards, towing bitts, fairleads, chocks, stoppers and associated supporting structures) shall be subject to thorough examination. Marking of shipboard fittings for towing with the value of the safe towing load (*TOW*) and, in applicable cases, the safe working load (*SWL*) shall be checked.

On tugs, in addition to the above, tow hooks complete with their remote controls and overload protection devices, towing rails, towing arches, rope stoppers and the fastenings for securing these parts to the hull shall be subject to thorough examination. The remote controls of the tow hook shall be operationally tested."

11     New **para 2.4.3.6.4** is introduced reading as follows:

"**2.4.3.6.4** Towing winch emergency release systems.

**2.4.3.6.4.1** These requirements apply to survey of towing winch emergency release systems installed on tugs in accordance with the requirements of 6.6, Part IX "Machinery" of the Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships.

**2.4.3.6.4.2** Scope of survey of towing winch emergency release system consists of the scope of annual survey considering the below-mentioned as well as additional documented instructions for special surveys provided by the manufacturer and agreed by the Register. Availability of the instruction on board the ship as well as documentation containing performance capabilities and operating instructions of the system shall be verified prior to the commencement of the survey.

**2.4.3.6.4.3** The full functionality of the towing winch emergency release system shall be operationally tested to the satisfaction of the RS surveyor. Testing is conducted either during a bollard pull test or by applying the tow line load against a strong point on the deck of the tug or the shore that is certified to the appropriate load.

**2.4.3.6.4.4** The emergency release system shall be tested at a tow line load that is equal to at least the lesser of 30 % of the maximum design load or 80 % of the ship's bollard pull in both a normal power condition and power blackout condition to the satisfaction of the RS surveyor."

12     Existing **paras 2.4.3.6.4** and **2.4.3.6.5** are renumbered **2.4.3.6.5** and **2.4.3.6.6** accordingly.

13     **Para 2.4.5.5.17** is replaced by the following text:

"**2.4.5.5.17** In towing winches the following shall be surveyed: shafts, drums, bearings, pinions and gear wheels, reduction gears, brakes with spring shock-absorbers, belt and other brakes, tooth type couplings (connection/disengaging), limit switches, fairleads with driving gears, automatic devices for governing the tension of the tow line, foundation frames (plates). Hydraulic drives of winches shall be surveyed in accordance with 2.4.5.5.9 and 2.4.6.3. Towing winch emergency release systems shall be surveyed in accordance with 2.4.3.6.4."

14     **Para 2.4.7.6** is replaced by the following text:

"**2.4.7.6** Cabling.

**2.4.7.6.1** During the examination of cabling and interference protection of radio reception, the following shall be checked:

condition of cables, panels, clips, pipes, packing boxes and glands in the cable penetration through the watertight and fire-resisting bulkheads and decks, sight port holes and drainage holes of cable pipelines, earthing of cable metal sheathing;

condition of offtake wire of lighting conductor, joining of its parts, connection with the ship's hull and flexible straps (in case of collapsible masts);

continuity and condition of electrical connections between the shielding sheathing of the cables, housing of the devices, machines, filters, distribution devices and the ship's hull.

During special surveys of ships of 25 years and over, diagnostics of cables and cable runs shall be carried out for determination of their technical condition to the extent agreed with the Register.

**2.4.7.6.2** Watertight cable transits of ships contracted for construction on or after 1 July 2021.

**2.4.7.6.2.1** The cable transit seal systems shall be surveyed by the RS surveyor or by a service supplier recognized by the Register to carry out inspections of such systems in accordance with Section 9, Part I "General Regulations for Technical Supervision" of RTSCS considering the provisions of Section 7, Part I "General Provisions" of these Rules.

**2.4.7.6.2.2** The Cable Transit Seal Systems Register shall be reviewed in order to confirm that it has been properly maintained by the shipowner (responsible personnel of the crew). If the results of the verification are satisfactory, the survey performance shall be confirmed by appropriate entry made in the Cable Transit Seal Systems Register.

**2.4.7.6.2.3** Where there are records entered since the last special survey of any repair, opening out/closing or alterations to the existing (installed) cable transits or installation of new cable transits and not submitted at annual surveys, the satisfactory condition of their seal systems shall be confirmed by satisfactory results of review of these records and examination of appropriate transits. The results of survey shall be recorded in the Cable Transit Seal Systems Register for each such cable transit.

**2.4.7.6.2.4** In case where the special survey of the cable transit seal systems has been carried out by a recognized service supplier, the RS surveyor shall verify the availability of the record in the Cable Transit Seal Systems Register confirming that the survey has been carried out."

### **PART III. ADDITIONAL SURVEYS OF SHIPS DEPENDING ON THEIR PURPOSE AND HULL MATERIAL**

#### **8 SURVEY OF GAS CARRIERS**

15 **Para 8.2.2.2.3.** In the Note, the reference to paras **2.2.3.8.6 — 2.2.3.8.8** is replaced by the reference to **2.2.3.7.6 — 2.2.3.7.8**.

#### **9 SURVEY OF PASSENGER SHIPS**

16 **Para 9.3.2.** In the third paragraph, the reference to para **2.2.3.7** is replaced by the reference to **2.2.3.6**.

#### **19 HULL, EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY SURVEYS OF MODU AND FOP**

17 New **para 19.2.2.8.7** is introduced reading as follows:

**"19.2.2.8.7** During survey of cable transit seal systems of MODU and FOP contracted for construction on or after 1 July 2021, the requirements of 2.4.7.6.2 of Part II "Survey Schedule and Scope" shall be met."

18 New **para 19.2.3.7.6.5** is introduced reading as follows:

**"19.2.3.7.6.5** Cable transits through watertight and fire-resisting bulkheads and decks shall be examined.

For MODU and FOP contracted for construction on or after 1 July 2021, the RS surveyor shall review the Cable Transit Seal Systems Register in order to confirm that it has been properly maintained by the shipowner (responsible personnel of the crew).



Where there are records entered since the last annual survey of any repair, opening out/closing or alterations to the existing (installed) cable transits or installation of new cable transits, the satisfactory condition of their seal systems shall be confirmed by satisfactory results of review of these records and, if deemed necessary, examination of appropriate transits. The results of survey shall be recorded in the Cable Transit Seal Systems Register for each such cable transit."