



RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING

CIRCULAR LETTER

No. 312-11-1441c

dated 25.09.2020

Re:

amendments to the Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships, 2020, ND No. 2-020101-124-E

Item(s) of supervision:

ships under construction

Entry-into-force date:

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Appendices:

Appendix 1: information on amendments introduced by the Circular Letter

Appendix 2: text of amendments to Part I "Classification" and Part XVII "Distinguishing Marks and Descriptive Notations in the Class Notation Specifying Structural and Operational Particulars of Ships"

Director General

Konstantin G. Palnikov

Text of CL:

We hereby inform that the Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships shall be amended as specified in the Appendices to the Circular Letter on account of introduction of a new distinguishing mark **UWILD** or **UWILD-S** in class notation of a ship.

It is necessary to do the following:

1. Bring the content of the Circular Letter to the notice of the RS surveyors, interested organizations and persons in the area of the RS Branch Offices' activity.
 2. Amendments introduced by the Circular Letter shall be applied during review and approval of the technical documentation on ships contracted for construction or conversion on or after 01.11.2020, in the absence of a contract, the keels of which are laid or which are at a similar stage of construction on and after 01.11.2020, as well as during review and approval of the technical documentation on ships, the delivery of which is on or after 01.11.2020.
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List of the amended and/or introduced paras/chapters/sections:

Part I: paras 2.2.47 — 2.2.49;

Part XVII: Section 20

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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, paras 2.2.47 — 2.2.49	New para 2.2.47 regarding possible assignment of the distinguishing mark for ship's fitness for long-term operation without dry-docking (UWILD or UWILD-S) has been introduced. Existing paras 2.2.47 — 2.2.48 as well as references thereto have been renumbered 2.2.48 — 2.2.49 accordingly	312-11-1441c of 25.09.2020	01.11.2020
2	Part XVII, Section 20	New Section 20 containing requirements for a ship in order to assign the distinguishing mark for ship's fitness for long-term operation without dry-docking (UWILD or UWILD-S) has been introduced	312-11-1441c of 25.09.2020	01.11.2020

RULES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF SEA-GOING SHIPS, 2020,

ND No. 2-020101-124-E

PART I. CLASSIFICATION

2 CLASS OF A SHIP

1 **New para 2.2.47** is introduced reading as follows:

"2.2.47 Distinguishing mark for ship's fitness for long-term operation without dry-docking.

UWILD (underwater inspection in lieu of dry-docking) — a distinguishing mark assigned to a berth-connected ship designed in such a way as to provide the possibility to replace surveys of the outside of the ship's bottom (bottom surveys) in dry dock with underwater inspection (in-water surveys using underwater television). For assignment of distinguishing mark **UWILD**, the requirements specified in Section 20 of Part XVII "Distinguishing Marks and Descriptive Notations in the Class Notation Specifying Structural and Operational Particulars of Ships", except for provisions of 20.3.1.3.6, shall be complied with.

Where, for a berth-connected ship with distinguishing mark **UWILD**, a possibility of performing any types of maintenance and surveys is provided without interrupting the ship's normal operation for the intended purpose, in the class notation an entry — **S** (the possibility provided by the design for the ship to remain in operation during the maintenance of bottom and side valves, and for systems and mechanisms using temporarily isolated bottom and side valves, to remain operational using the redundancy of isolated components of sea water systems) is added after the distinguishing mark **UWILD**. For the assignment of distinguishing mark **UWILD-S**, the requirements specified in Section 20 of Part XVII "Distinguishing Marks and Descriptive Notations in the Class Notation Specifying Structural and Operational Particulars of Ships", including 20.3.1.3.6, shall be complied with."

2 **Existing paras 2.2.47 — 2.2.48** and references thereto are renumbered **2.2.48 — 2.2.49** accordingly.

PART XVII. DISTINGUISHING MARKS AND DESCRIPTIVE NOTATIONS IN THE CLASS NOTATION SPECIFYING STRUCTURAL AND OPERATIONAL PARTICULARS OF SHIPS

3 **New Section 20** is introduced reading as follows:

"20 REQUIREMENTS FOR SHIPS FITTED FOR LONG-TERM OPERATION WITHOUT DRY-DOCKING AND DESIGNED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO PROVIDE THE POSSIBILITY OF IN-WATER SURVEY

20.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS AND SCOPE OF APPLICATION

20.1.1 For ships constructed in compliance with the requirements of this Section, the distinguishing mark **UWILD** or **UWILD-S** is added to the character of classification in accordance with 2.2.47, Part I "Classification". The assignment of the distinguishing mark is not mandatory and may be performed at the shipowner's discretion. These requirements are applied to berth-connected ships designed in such a way as to provide the possibility to replace

surveys of the outside of the ship's bottom in dry dock with alternative survey methods (such ships include floating oil/gas storages, floating power plants, etc.). In some cases, application of this mark may require agreement with the Flag State Maritime Administration (depending on MA requirements as well as when the ship is covered by SOLAS).

20.1.2 The conditions for in-water survey are specified in 2.5, Part II "Survey Schedule and Scope" of the Rules for the Classification Surveys of Ships in Service.

20.2 TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

20.2.1 In addition to 3.2, Part I "Classification", the scope of the plan approval documentation for a ship under construction to be submitted shall include the following documents (A — for approval, AG — for agreement, FI — for information):

.1 technical background containing substantiation of the possibility of the ship operation without dry-docking throughout the planned service life, periodical examinations of the shell plating from inside ensuring free passage for RS surveyor along ship's structures in all directions during surveys (AG);

.2 manual on means of access to structures from inside and outside, including description of procedures (with the use of divers and other technical means) for installation and securing of temporary blanks required for maintenance and survey of bottom and side valves, closing devices or other structures under water providing free access (A);

.3 installation drawings for bottom and side valves and on board means ensuring maintenance of these valves without dry-docking (A);

.4 data on coatings used for anticorrosive protection of the inside and the outside of the bottom and side plating of ship's underwater part (FI) with confirmation based on the hull coating manufacturer's guarantee that the coatings applied onto ship's bottom have been designed to remain in undamaged condition within the particular period of time (ship service period or possible operation period without dry-docking shall be specified), and that the coating will remain effective within the specified period (the submitted document shall be agreed upon with the coating manufacturer). The information shall be submitted as part of the specification of protective coatings required in compliance with 3.2.2.20, Part I "Classification";

.5 if applicable, information on installation of anode protection, instructions on the renewal of the installed anodes in the ship outer hull afloat (the submitted document shall be agreed upon with the coating manufacturer as regards compatibility);

.6 if applicable, cathodic protection specification as well as its installation scheme (the submitted document shall be agreed upon with the coating manufacturer as regards compatibility);

.7 draft programme for in-water survey, including with the use of underwater television, which takes into account the structural particulars of a ship (A). The draft programme shall define and substantiate periods of in-water survey using underwater television if they differ from those specified in 2.5, Part II "Survey Schedule and Scope" of the Rules for the Classification Surveys of Ships in Service (to be approved by the RS Branch Office carrying out technical supervision during construction).

20.3 TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

20.3.1 The distinguishing mark **UWILD** or **UWILD-S** may be assigned to the ships complying with the following requirements.

20.3.1.1 The ship shall comply with the requirements for the distinguishing mark denoting the ship's fitness for in-water survey, specified in Section 12, and shall have the distinguishing mark **IWS** in the class notation.

20.3.1.2 The ship shall have the descriptive notation **Berth-connected ship (G)**, or **(S)**, or **(W)**. For operation conditions **Berth-connected ship (S)** and **(W)**, a distance from the outer bottom plating to the sea-bed ensuring safe divers' operations shall be provided at the ship's anchorage location.

20.3.1.3 Additional requirements for distinguishing marks **UWILD** and **UWILD-S**.

20.3.1.3.1 Ship spaces shall be designed in such a way as to provide the possibility of performing periodical examinations of the shell plating from inside (i.e. internal examinations). Protective coating shall be applied onto the ship spaces. Effectiveness and service period of the protective coating shall be determined by the shipowner and agreed with the manufacturer.

Permanent means of access shall be provided in such spaces, enabling a throughout examination of the shell plating from inside without using any additional portable arrangements. Openings in hull structures (floors, longitudinal girders, bulkheads, etc.) shall ensure free passage for RS surveyor in all directions during surveys.

20.3.1.3.2 Corrosion protection for the underwater hull shell plating shall be ensured by using anticorrosive coating together with electrochemical protection. Effectiveness and service period of such protection shall be determined by the shipowner.

20.3.1.3.3 Means shall be provided enabling necessary maintenance, repair or replacement of any ship's bottom and side valves without dry-docking. This may require the use of separate external blanks for each valve as well as watertight means of closing for sea chests or special water intake shafts.

Temporary closing devices and blanks for maintenance of bottom and side valves on the shell plating below the waterline may be installed by divers.

20.3.1.3.4 Compliance with the requirements specified in 4.3.1, Part VIII "Systems and Piping" is not mandatory. However, the following shall be provided: measures for prevention of brash and broken ice penetration into inlets, blowing with compressed air or steam or backwash of gratings, cooling system recirculation towards suction arrangements and heating of bottom and side valves installed above the waterline.

20.3.1.3.5 If the ship is provided with a through trunk (or shaft), inside of which all the discharge and inlet valves are installed, provision shall be made for its closure and draining for operations with bottom and side valves. If submersible pumps are used in such a shaft without bottom and side valves, closure and draining of the shaft may not be provided but the submersible pumps shall be retrievable for maintenance.

20.3.1.3.6 Only for a berth-connected ship with the mark **UWILD-S** all systems and mechanisms using temporarily isolated bottom and side valves shall remain operational using redundancy of isolated components of sea water systems. In such case the possibility of performing any types of maintenance and surveys shall be provided without interrupting the ship's normal operation for the intended purpose.

20.3.1.4 Possibility of retainment of distinguishing mark **UWILD** or **UWILD-S** in service.

20.3.1.4.1 The in-water survey shall be performed in due dates in compliance with the applicable requirements of Section 9, Part II "Carrying out Classification Surveys of Ships" of the Guidelines on Technical Supervision of Ships in Service and Annex 1 thereto with account of the RS-approved draft programme for in-water survey using underwater television (refer to 20.2.7).

20.3.1.4.2 If the ship's anchorage location and/or move method need to be changed, the matter relating to the retainment of the mark **UWILD** or **UWILD-S** in the class notation shall be agreed upon with the Register in each particular case.

20.3.1.4.3 For operation conditions **Berth-connected ship (S)** and **(W)**, a distance from the bottom shell plating to the sea-bed ensuring safe divers' operations shall be provided at the ship's anchorage location.

20.3.1.4.4 In case of detection of defects that are recognized as not complying with the RS requirements, the possibility for repair afloat of any hull structure in the underwater part shall be provided using the RS-approved technology under RS supervision. If a repair afloat is not technically feasible, it shall be carried out by dry-docking."