



RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING

CIRCULAR LETTER

No. 328-04-1252c

dated 15.08.2019

Re:

amendments to the Rules for the Classification and Construction of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk, 2019, ND No. 2 020101-122-E

Item(s) of supervision:

cargo containment, type A, B and C cargo tanks

Entry-into-force date:

01.07.2020

Valid till:-

Validity period extended till:-

Cancels / amends / adds Circular Letter No. -

dated -

Number of pages:

1+2

Appendices:

Appendix 1: information on amendments introduced by the Circular Letter

Appendix 2: text of amendments to Part IV "Cargo Containment"

Director General

Konstantin G. Palnikov

Text of CL:

We hereby inform that in connection in coming into force of IACS Unified Interpretations (UI) GC20 (Apr 2019) and GC21 (Apr 2019) the Rules for the Classification and Construction of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk shall be amended as specified in the Appendices to the Circular Letter.

It is necessary to do the following:

1. Bring the content of the Circular Letter to the notice of the RS surveyors, as well as interested organizations and persons in the area of the RS Branch Offices' activity.
 2. Apply the provisions of the Circular Letter.
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List of the amended and/or introduced paras/chapters/sections:

Part IV: paras 20.2.1 and 20.2.2

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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 IV, para 20.2.1	Requirements for welds of type A and B cargo tanks have been specified considering IACS UI GC20 (Apr 2019)	328-04-1252c of 15.08.2019	01.07.2020
2	Part IV, para 20.2.2	Requirements for welds of type C bi-lobe cargo tanks have been specified considering IACS UI GC21 (Apr 2019)	328-04-1252c of 15.08.2019	01.07.2020

**RULES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF SHIPS CARRYING
LIQUEFIED GASES IN BULK,
ND No. 2-020101-122-E**

PART IV. CARGO CONTAINMENT

20 CONSTRUCTION PROCESSES

1 **Para 20.2.1** shall be replaced by the following text:

"20.2.1 The present requirements are applicable to independent tanks of type A or type B, primarily constructed of plane surfaces. This includes the tank corners which are constructed using bend plating which is aligned with the tank surfaces and connected with in-plane welds¹. All welded joints of the shells of independent tanks shall be of the in-plane butt weld full penetration type. For dome-to-shell connections only, tee welds of the full penetration type may be used depending on the results of the tests carried out at the approval of the welding procedure. Except for small penetrations on domes, nozzle welds shall also be designed with full penetration.

Welded corners (i.e corners made of weld metal) shall not be used in the main tank shell construction, i.e. corners between shell side (sloped plane surfaces parallel to hopper or top side inclusive if any) and bottom or top of the tank, and between tank and transverse bulkheads and bottom, top or shell sides (sloped plane surfaces inclusive if any) of the tank. Instead, tank corners which are constructed using bent plating aligned with the tank surfaces and connected with in-plane welds shall be used.

Tee welds of full penetration type can be accepted for other localized constructions of the shell such as suction well, sump or dome."

2 **Para 20.2.2** shall be replaced by the following text:

"20.2.2 Welding joint details for type C independent tanks including bi-lobe tanks, primarily constructed of curved surfaces fitted with a centerline bulkhead², and for the liquid-tight primary barriers of type B independent tanks primarily constructed of curved surfaces, shall be as follows:

.1 all longitudinal and circumferential joints shall be of butt welded, full penetration, double vee or single vee type. Full penetration butt welds shall be obtained by double welding or by the use of backing rings. If used, backing rings shall be removed except from very small process pressure vessels. Other edge preparations may be permitted, depending on the results of the tests carried out at the approval of the welding procedure;

.2 the bevel preparation of the joints between the tank body and domes and between domes and relevant fittings shall be designed according to a procedure approved by the Register. All welds connecting nozzles, domes or other penetrations of the vessel and all welds connecting flanges to the vessel or nozzles shall be full penetration welds; and

.3 cruciform full penetration welded joints in bi-lobe tanks with centerline bulkhead can be accepted for the tank structure construction at tank centerline welds with bevel preparation subject to approval by the Register, based on the results of the tests carried out at the approval of the welding procedure."

¹ The requirements are added considering IACS UI GC20.

² The requirements are added considering IACS UI GC21.