



RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING

CIRCULAR LETTER

No. 340-04-1671c

dated 30.11.2021

Re:

amendments to the Guidelines on Technical Supervision of Ships in Service and Annexes thereto, 2021, ND No. 2-030101-009-E, considering the experience of technical supervision

Item(s) of supervision:

ships and offshore installations in service

Entry-into-force date:

01.01.2022

Cancels / amends / adds Circular Letter No.

dated

Number of pages: 1+6

Appendices:

Appendix 1: information on amendments introduced by the Circular Letter

Appendix 2: text of amendments to Parts I "General Provisions", II "Carrying out Classification Surveys of Ships", III "Survey of Ships in Compliance with International Conventions, Codes, Resolutions and Rules for the Equipment of Sea-Going Ships", Annex 27 "Procedure for Carrying Out Surveys of Ships in Service on the Initiative of the Register (Initiative Surveys)"

Director General

Konstantin G. Palnikov

Text of CL:

We hereby inform that the Guidelines on Technical Supervision of Ships in Service and Annexes thereto shall be amended at their re-publication in 2022 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 surveys of ships and offshore installations in service.

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

Part I: paras 3.1.8, 3.3 and 7.8

Part II: paras 4.9.7.2, 5.2.3.9, 5.2.3.14 (deleted), 8.9.2 and 8.9.3

Part III: para 4.2.2.3.1.1

Annex 27 (deleted)

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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 3.1.8	Para has been revised in connection with deletion of Annex 27	340-04-1671c of 30.11.2021	01.01.2022
2	Part I, chapter 3.3	Chapter has been revised on the basis of existing text. References to applicable requirements and procedures have been specified	340-04-1671c of 30.11.2021	01.01.2022
3	Part I, para 7.8	References to the applicable requirements has been specified	340-04-1671c of 30.11.2021	01.01.2022
4	Part II, para 4.9.7.2	References to the provisions of the RS normative document containing the conditions under which SMC and SSC become invalid have been specified	340-04-1671c of 30.11.2021	01.01.2022
5	Part II, para 5.2.3.9	Para has been replaced by the text of existing para 5.2.3.14	340-04-1671c of 30.11.2021	01.01.2022
6	Part II, para 5.2.3.14	Para has been deleted	340-04-1671c of 30.11.2021	01.01.2022
7	Part II, para 8.9.2	References to the applicable requirements have been specified	340-04-1671c of 30.11.2021	01.01.2022
8	Part II, para 8.9.3	References to the applicable requirements have been specified	340-04-1671c of 30.11.2021	01.01.2022
9	Part III, para 4.2.2.3.1.1	Requirements for submission of documents necessary for survey when changing the Flag for the RF flag have been specified	340-04-1671c of 30.11.2021	01.01.2022
10	Annex 27	Annex has been deleted due to loss of relevance	340-04-1671c of 30.11.2021	01.01.2022

GUIDELINES ON TECHNICAL SUPERVISION OF SHIPS IN SERVICE, 2021,

ND No. 2-030101-009-E

PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

3 OUTLINES OF THE REGISTER ACTIVITIES PERTINENT TO THE TECHNICAL SUPERVISION OF SHIPS IN SERVICE

1 **Para 3.1.8** is replaced by the following text:

"3.1.8 Surveys on the Register initiative.

3.1.8.1 For the purpose of preventing or excluding a possibility of a ship operation not in full compliance with the applicable requirements of the relevant RS Rules, International conventions and Agreements, as well as for the purpose of assessment of the actual technical condition of the ship in between the prescribed periodical surveys (special, annual etc.), ships or separate items of supervision may be subject to occasional surveys on the Register initiative¹.

3.1.8.2 Initiative surveys are applied for ships and items of technical supervision with highest deficiency rates identified during Port State authorities (PSC) or Flag State MA inspections.

3.1.8.3 Initiative surveys can also be regarded as practical assistance to shipowners in the preparation of ships for PSC inspections, bearing in mind the Register experience with such inspections. This work shall be entrusted to the most experienced surveyors familiar with specific features of inspections performed by PSC or Flag State MA.

3.1.8.4 In selecting ships for initiative surveys, consideration shall be given to the following:
deficiencies identified during inspections of sister ships;
deficiencies identified during inspection of the ship concerned, to select the items and the scope of the initiative survey;

Register-related deficiencies. These are a major consideration in selecting a ship or the items of survey;

shipowner's attitude toward ensuring safety of navigation (to be established on the basis of review of statistics of identified deficiencies, their causes and measures taken to eliminate deficiencies);

age of ship (most deficiencies are identified on ships over 15 years of age).

3.1.8.5 A decision to perform initiative survey may be taken only by the Register Head Office or the management of the RS Branch Office.

3.1.8.6 Initiative survey shall be performed:

on the basis of a statement by PSC, Flag State MA, or crew members about defects on board that pose a threat to the safety of navigation, human life or the environment;

after detention of ship by PSC – when there is no request for occasional survey in the port where the ship has been detained (refer to 3.3.3);

on the basis of information of typical defects in sister ships that pose a threat to the safety of navigation, human life or the environment;

on ships that systematically violate the requirements established by the Register (suspension of ship's class, cancellation of statutory certificates, major deficiencies identified during periodical surveys, and overdue conditions (requirements) of the RS class, non-timely presentation for survey of items of technical supervision, in case of substantial renewals, conversion or repair without the RS supervision, etc.);

on ships having unsatisfactory appearance (for example, absence or significant degradation of paint coating of the above-water part of the hull, superstructures and deckhouses), apparent

¹ Hereinafter referred to as "the initiative surveys".

defects of lifesaving appliances, fire-fighting equipment, loss of contrast of the load line marking, etc.

Additionally, initiative survey can result from instructions from the Register Head Office to check the technical condition of those items of technical supervision that have been found to be deficient in sister ships.

3.1.8.7 Prior to the commencement of initiative survey, the RS Branch Office shall notify the shipowner and/or the representative authorized by the shipowner of the purpose and scope of the occasional survey and, at least 12 h before the survey (in particular cases, where the ship's stay in port is not more than 12 h, 1 to 2 h before the survey) to agree with the shipowner the place and the time of survey, taking into account both the shipowner's (charterer's, crew's, etc.) interests and the interests of the Flag State MA and the Register, matters relating to the safety of navigation and prevention of marine pollution.

It is the responsibility of the shipowner to notify the Master of the date and purpose of visit by Register surveyors, prepare the ship items for the survey and make necessary arrangements for the performance of the survey.

3.1.8.8 Initiative survey shall, where practicable, be carried out at any ship survey, i.e. items of technical supervision not pertaining to the type of survey concerned shall also be checked (but not included in the invoice for the survey).

3.1.8.9 The scope of occasional survey shall be specified by the Register on a case by case basis, taking into consideration the causes and purposes of the initiative survey, and it can comprise both an overall survey of ship and a close-up survey of individual items including operational tests and trials where necessary. In any case, the Surveyor primarily familiarizes with the classification and statutory certificates carried on board to verify their periods of validity, presence of outstanding Register requirements, etc., and with the last PSC inspection reports.

The scope of initiative survey shall comprise an operation test and/or external examination of those items of technical supervision that most commonly cause ship detentions during PSC inspections (as a rule, life-saving appliances, fire-fighting equipment and outfit, nautical publications).

3.1.8.10 A Report (Form 6.3.10) is drawn up based on the results of the initiative survey where all the requirements (if any) shall be entered with the due dates assigned in accordance with Annex 17 (refer also to 7.2 – 7.6 and 7.13). The Report is delivered to the Master with copies forwarded to the shipowner and to the RS Branch Office for in-service supervision.

3.1.8.11 If major deficiencies are identified during the survey that affect the safety of navigation and prevention of pollution of the marine environment, in particular, relating to those items of technical supervision whose survey was not covered by the scope of survey specified earlier, suspension of class and/or cancellation of relevant statutory documents shall be carried out in accordance with Section 4, Part II "Carrying out Classification Survey of Ships" and 4.2.3, Part III "Survey of Ships in compliance with International Conventions, Codes, Resolutions and Rules for the Equipment of Sea-Going Ships". The scope of the occasional survey shall be extended in this case.

3.1.8.12 If an shipowner/ship's crew decline, without any grounds, to have initiative survey performed, the RS Branch Office will notify the shipowner in writing of possible suspension of the ship's class pending fulfillment of the Register requirement to perform the said survey. A refusal shall be treated as ungrounded if ship management or shipowner fail to present to initiative survey a ship subject to the requirements of 3.1.8.6.

3.1.8.13 No fee shall be charged for initiative survey, but subsequent surveys for rectification of deficiencies and fulfillment of requirements imposed during the initiative survey shall be charged on a general basis."

2 **Chapter 3.3** is replaced by the following text:

"3.3 SURVEY OF SHIPS IN CONNECTION WITH PORT STATE CONTROL DETENTIONS

3.3.1 The scope and procedure of surveys for ships in case of ship's detentions are determined by the directions of the Flag State MA. In case of absence of particular instructions from the Flag State MA, the provisions of 7.8 and the RS internal procedures for prevention of ships' detentions shall be considered.

"3.3.2 These occasional surveys are obligatory and are normally carried out by the request of the Shipowner in the port where the ship has been detained.

3.3.3 If no request is made, the Register reserves the right to attend on board the ship on the initiative of the RS Branch Office carrying out the survey in compliance with 3.1.8.

3.3.4 If the ship leaves the port of detention without being submitted to the Register surveys the RS Branch Office for supervision in service shall promptly contact the Shipowner and agree upon the time and place of the prescribed survey in accordance with the directions of the ship's Flag State MA and/or provisions of 7.8 and the RS internal procedures for prevention of ships' detentions."

7 ASSIGNMENT OF OCCASIONAL SURVEYS

3 **Para 7.8** is replaced by the following text:

"7.8 In case of ship's detention by the Port Authorities the provisions of 3.3 shall be met considering the following:

.1 in case of the first detention for 12 (twelve) calendar months if the ship has not been subject to the survey directly in the port after the detention it shall be subject to the occasional survey within time period not exceeding one month from the date of detention;

.2 in case of repeated detention for 12 (twelve) calendar months if the ship has not been subject to the survey directly in the port after the second detention it shall be subject to the occasional survey within time period not exceeding 14 (fourteen) calendar days from the date of detention;

.3 the RS Branch office for in-service supervision shall within 1 (one) working day after obtaining the information related to the ship detention register the requirement for the ship occasional survey in the Classification Section of the List of Survey's Status, and shall advise the shipowner."

PART II. CARRYING OUT CLASSIFICATION SURVEYS OF SHIPS

4 PROCEDURE FOR SUSPENSION, WITHDRAWAL, REINSTATEMENT AND REASSIGNMENT OF RS CLASS

4 **Para 4.9.7.2** is replaced by the following text:

"4.9.7.2 The requirements of the International Safety Management Code (hereinafter, the ISM Code) and the International Code for the Security of Ships and of Port Facilities (ISPS Code) do not contain provisions regarding cancellation of the Safety Management Certificate (SMC) and Ship Security Certificate (SSC) during the ship class suspension;

conditions under which the SMC becomes invalid are specified in 13.9 of Part B of the ISM Code (refer to 1.1.10 of the ISM Code, IMO Circular MSC/Circ.1059-MEPC/Circ.401, para 1.2.3 of the ISM Code and IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1371), paras 3.11.7, 3.12 IACS PR No. 9 and 4.6.13, 4.9.1.8, 4.9.2.7 of the Guidelines on Certification of Safety Management Systems in Compliance with the Requirements of the International Safety Management (ISM) Code and of the Ships in Compliance with the Requirements of the International Code for the Security of Ships and of Port Facilities (ISPS Code);

conditions under which the SSC becomes invalid are specified in 19.3.8 of Part A of IC ISPS, Section 12 of IACS PR No. 24 and 5.9.1.7 □ 5.9.2 of the Guidelines on Certification of Safety Management Systems in Compliance with the Requirements of the International Safety Management (ISM) Code and of the Ships in Compliance with the Requirements of the International Code for the Security of Ships and of Port Facilities (ISPS Code)."

5 PROCEDURE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF SHIPS IN SERVICE INTO THE RS CLASS

5 **Para 5.2.3.9** is replaced by the following text:

"5.2.3.14 For the ships which are covered by provisions of international conventions and codes the surveys shall be carried out in compliance with the applicable requirements of IC and codes as well as agreements and the Flag State MA instructions (including instructions received additionally upon RHO's request). The scope of survey shall be determined by provisions of Part III "Survey of Ships in Compliance with International Conventions, Codes, Resolutions and Rules for the Equipment of Sea-Going Ships."

6 **Para 5.2.3.14** is deleted.

8 PASSAGES AND TOWING

7 **Para 8.9.2** is replaced by the following text:

"8.9.2 The passage issues for the ships in conservation are subject to the RHO consideration only for the ships with no RS class in accordance with the requirements in 8.2.8."

8 **Para 8.9.3** is replaced by the following text:

"8.9.3 The passage issues for the ships in lay-up under class suspended prior to laying up (e.g. the class status in code 25 "CLASS SUSPENDED (THE SHIP IS LAID-UP WITH THE CLASS SUSPENDED)") are subject to the RHO consideration for the ships with no RS class in accordance with the requirements given in 8.2.9."

PART III. SURVEY OF SHIPS IN COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS, CODES, RESOLUTIONS AND RULES FOR THE EQUIPMENT OF SEA-GOING SHIPS

4. SOME INSTRUCTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON CARRYING OUT SURVEYS AND ISSUING DOCUMENTS

9 **Para 4.2.2.3.1.1** is replaced by the following text:

"4.2.2.3.1.1 If any flag is changed for the RF flag:
certificate of the right of ownership;
interim or permanent certificate of the right to sail under the state flag of the Russian Federation;
minimum safe manning certificate;
classification certificate;
certificates for compliance with the requirements of the International Conventions issued on behalf of the former Flag State MA;
the Ship Station Licence issued by authorized body of the Russian Federation."

**ANNEXES TO GUIDELINES ON TECHNICAL SUPERVISION OF SHIPS
IN SERVICE, 2021**

ND No. 2-030101-009-E

ANNEX 27

**27. PROCEDURE FOR CARRYING OUT SURVEYS OF SHIPS IN SERVICE
ON THE INITIATIVE OF THE REGISTER (INITIATIVE SURVEYS)**

10 **Annex 27** and its title are deleted. New text is introduced reading as follows:

"ANNEX 27

Annex 27 is deleted. The Annex number has been reserved."