

RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING

**GENERAL REGULATIONS
FOR THE CLASSIFICATION
AND OTHER ACTIVITY**



Saint-Petersburg
Edition 2016

General Regulations for the Classification and Other Activity of Russian Maritime Register of Shipping have been approved in accordance with the established approval procedure and come into force on 1 January 2016.

The present nineteenth edition of General Regulations is based on the eighteenth edition (2015) taking into account the additions and amendments developed immediately before publication.

As compared to the previous edition (2015), the nineteenth edition contains the following amendments.

GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR THE CLASSIFICATION AND OTHER ACTIVITY

1. Chapter 1.3: paras 1.3.2.3 regarding application of new or modified rule requirements, which enter into force subsequent to the date of the contract, and 1.3.2.4 regarding application of the rules for naval ships, as well as other State-owned ships or government ships operated and used for non-commercial purposes, have been introduced. The existing para 1.3.2.3 has been renumbered 1.3.2.5.

2. Chapter 2.5: in para 2.5.1 the list of international conventions has been supplemented with the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001.

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GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR THE CLASSIFICATION AND OTHER ACTIVITY

1 GENERAL

1.1 APPLICATION

1.1.1 The present General Regulations for the Classification and Other Activity cover the activity of Russian Maritime Register of Shipping¹ during:

review and agreement of technical documentation for the construction, repair, conversion and modernization of ships and fixed offshore platforms², for the manufacture of materials and products for ships and FOP;

technical supervision of the construction, repair, conversion and modernization of ships and FOP;
survey of ships and FOP in service.

The classification activity of the Register is based on Regulations Concerning the Classification of Ships and Fixed Offshore Platforms.

The Register activity in other spheres is regulated by relevant documents.

1.2 CLASSIFICATION AND OTHER ACTIVITY

1.2.1 The Register carries out surveys of and assigns class to civil ships. The Register is a member to International Association of Classification Societies (IACS) and uses IACS resolutions in its activity.

The Register maintains a quality management system complying with the requirements of IACS and with the applicable requirements of ISO 9001 which is confirmed by the relevant certificates.

Besides, being authorized by the government of the Russian Federation³ and by the governments of other countries to act on their behalf, the Register carries out surveys within its terms of reference for compliance with the requirements of international conventions and agreements to which the above governments are parties.

1.2.2 The Register establishes technical requirements ensuring safe operation of ships and FOP in accordance with their purpose, safety of life at sea and safe carriage of goods by sea and inland waterways as well as pollution prevention from ships; it carries out surveys for compliance with the above requirements, assigns class to ships and FOP, determines the net and gross tonnage of sea-going ships and FOP and the tonnage measurement characteristics of inland navigation ships in its registry.

1.2.3 The Register activity is based on the rules published by that body and is aimed at determining whether ships and FOP in its registry as well as materials and products intended for the construction and repair of ships and FOP and their equipment comply with the rules and with additional requirements. The application and fulfillment of the rules and additional requirements are the obligation of design bureaus, shipowners, shipyards and manufacturers of materials and products to which the requirements of the rules apply.

The interpretation of the requirements of the Register rules and other normative documents is within the competence of the Register only.

The Register activity does not substitute for the state surveillance of merchant shipping carried out by both the federal body of executive power responsible for transport and the federal body of executive power responsible for fisheries, nor does it interfere with shipowners, shipyards or manufacturers technical control.

1.2.4 Classification activity of the Register covers the following:

- .1 development and publication of rules and other normative documents;
- .2 review and approval of technical documentation;
- .3 construction, conversion, modernization and repair surveys of ships and FOP, manufacture and repair surveys of products as well as manufacture surveys of materials for shipbuilding;
- .4 surveys of ships and FOP in service;
- .5 assignment, renewal and reinstatement of class;
- .6 drawing up and issue of the Register certificates.

1.2.5 Other activity of the Register covers:

- .1 construction, conversion, modernization and repair surveys of ships and FOP as well as manufacture and repair surveys of products and manufacture surveys of materials for shipbuilding for compliance with the provisions of international conventions and agreements;
- .2 ship and FOP registry;
- .3 investigation and registry of accidents aboard ships;
- .4 initiative surveys of ships;
- .5 judgement in technical matters;
- .6 other activity not connected with classification of ships and FOP.

1.2.6 The Register carries out classification of the following types of sea-going ships, ships of inland

¹Hereinafter referred to as "the Register".

²Hereinafter referred to as "FOP".

³Hereinafter referred to as "RF".

navigation and fixed offshore platforms both under construction and in service:

.1 passenger ships and tankers, tugs, ships designed for the carriage of dangerous goods, pleasure craft, all these irrespective of their main engine power and gross tonnage;

.2 self-propelled ships not mentioned under 1.2.6.1 with main engine power of 55 kW and above;

.3 ships not mentioned under 1.2.6.1 and 1.2.6.2 with a gross tonnage of 80 and above or with the total power of prime movers of 100 kW and above;

.4 fixed offshore platforms of different purposes.

1.2.7 The Register carries out surveys of ship refrigerating plants from the point of view of ship's safety, safe carriage of goods, absence of the ozone-destructive effect of refrigerants upon the environment, as well as the classification of ship refrigerating plants.

1.2.8 The Register carries out surveys of ship cargo-handling gear of 1 t lifting capacity and upwards.

1.2.9 On special agreement, the Register may carry out surveys of ships, installations or arrangements not specified in 1.2.6 to 1.2.8.

1.2.10 The technological and special arrangements of fishing vessels, cable layers, vessels of dredging fleet and special purpose ships are not subject to the Register survey except the equipment specified in the relevant parts of the rules.

1.2.11 Draft standards and other normative documents related to the Register activity are reviewed and approved by the Register.

1.2.12 The Register may initiate examinations of technical issues related to its activity or participate therein.

1.2.13 The Register of Ships is published by the Register, containing the particulars of self-propelled sea-going ships of 100 gross tonnage and upwards classed with the Register.

1.2.14 For services rendered by the Register fees are charged according to the scales of fees of the Register. If the commitments to the Register including those on payment for its services fail to be performed or are improperly performed, the Register is entitled not to assign a class or, where a class has already been assigned, to suspend or withdraw it from the ship in connection with which the commitments to the Register, including those on payment for its services failed to be performed or were improperly performed, and to withdraw (make an entry indicating cessation of validity) the certificates issued by the Register.

1.3 RULES

1.3.1 Rules to be applied.

1.3.1.1 The following rules are developed, published and used by the Register:

.1 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships;

.2 Rules for the Equipment of Sea-Going Ships;

.3 Load Line Rules for Sea-Going Ships;

.4 Rules for the Cargo-Handling Gear of Sea-Going Ships;

.5 Rules for the Classification Surveys of Ships in Service;

.6 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Inland Navigation Ships (for European Inland Waterways);

.7 Rules for the surveys of Inland Navigation Ships in Service (for European Inland Waterways);

.8 Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (MODU) and Fixed Offshore Platforms (FOP);

.9 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Chemical Tankers;

.10 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Nuclear Ships and Floating Facilities;

.11 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Nuclear Support Vessels;

.12 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk;

.13 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Ships Carrying Compressed Natural Gas;

.14 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Manned Submersibles, Ship's Diving Systems and Passenger Submersibles;

.15 Rules for the Classification and Construction of High-Speed Craft;

.16 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Type A WIG Craft;

.17 Rules for the Carriage of Grain.

.18 Rules for the Construction of Hulls of Sea-Going Ships and Floating Facilities Using Reinforced Concrete;

.19 Rules for the Tonnage Measurement of Sea-Going Ships;

.20 Rules for the Tonnage Measurement of Inland Navigation Ships;

.21 Rules for Technical Supervision during Construction of Ships and Manufacture of Materials and Products for Ships;

.22 Rules for the Survey of Ship Propulsion Plants for Compliance with Technical Standards of Noxious Substance Emission into the Air;

.23 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Small Sea Fishing Vessels;

.24 Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Floating Offshore Oil-and-Gas Production Units;

.25 Rules for the Classification and Construction of Pleasure Craft;

.26 Rules for the Oil-and-Gas Equipment of Floating Offshore Oil-and-Gas Production Units,

Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms;

.27 Rules for Planning and Execution of Marine Operations.

1.3.1.2 Besides the rules mentioned under 1.3.1.1, the following rules are applied in the Register activity:

.1 Rules for the Measurement of Vessels for the Panama Canal;

.2 Rules for the Tonnage Measurement for the Suez Canal;

.3 Rules of the RF River Register;

.4 other external normative documents approved by the Register.

1.3.1.3 The Register also develops, publishes and uses guidelines on the survey of ships, FOP, materials and products for shipbuilding as well as other guidelines and technical requirements regulating the Register activity in other spheres.

1.3.2 Application of the rules to ships and FOP under construction, materials and products.

1.3.2.1 Newly published rules and amendments thereto come into force on the date stated in the annotation on the back of the title page. Before that date, they shall be considered recommendations.

1.3.2.2 For newly built ships and FOP the rules or amendments thereto as in effect on the date of signing the contract for construction of a ship (series of sister ships) or the FOP respectively are generally applied.

If the ship/FOP design is submitted to the Register for approval before the date of signing the contract for construction, the Rules or amendments thereto as in effect on the date of the customer's request for the design review are applied. In this case, if the new rules or amendments to the rules, according to which the ship/FOP design was approved become effective on the date of signing the contract for construction of a ship/FOP, the design shall be revised for compliance with the above rules or amendments.

1.3.2.3 Special consideration by the Register may be given to applying new or modified rule requirements which entered into force subsequent to the date of the contract in the following cases:

.1 when a justified written request is received from the party applying for classification;

.2 when the keel has not been laid yet and more than one year has elapsed since the contract was signed;

.3 where it is intended to use existing previously approved plans for a new contract.

1.3.2.4 Application of the rules and amendments to the rules for auxiliary and other naval ships, as well as other State-owned ships or government ships operated and used for non-commercial purposes is subject to special consideration by the Register in each case.

1.3.2.5 Materials and products, technical documentation on which is submitted to the Register for approval after the enforcement of the rules or amendments thereto, shall comply with the requirements of the above rules and amendments.

1.3.3 Application of rules to ships and FOP in service.

1.3.3.1 For ships and FOP in service the requirements of the edition of the rules, according to which the ships and FOP were built, are applied, unless otherwise specified in the subsequent editions of the rules and notices of amendments thereto issued after publication of the above rules.

1.3.3.2 For ships and FOP in service, classified by the Register for the first time, the requirements of the rules effective for the period of construction of the given ship/FOP considering the requirements of subsequent editions of the rules, which apply to ships and FOP in service.

1.3.3.3 The scope of application of the newly published rules to ships and FOP in service, repair after an accident or other similar cases, as well as at conversion, shall be specified by the Register considering practicability and technical feasibility in each particular case.

1.3.4 **Equivalents.**

1.3.4.1 The Register may allow to use materials and products, ship structures, FOP or their separate arrangements, other than those required by the rules, provided they are as effective as those specified by the rules. Where ships and FOP covered by international conventions and agreements are concerned, equivalents may only be allowed by the Register if they are accepted by the relevant conventions or agreements.

In the above cases, data shall be submitted to the Register enabling to ascertain that the materials, structures and products in question meet the requirements ensuring the ship/FOP safety, safety of life at sea, safe carriage of goods by sea and by inland waterways as well as ecological safety of the environment.

1.3.4.2 Where the structure of a ship, FOP, machinery, arrangements, installations, equipment and outfit or the materials used cannot be recognized as being adequately verified in service, the Register may require special tests to be held during construction and, in case of a ship in service, may reduce intervals between periodical surveys or extend the scope of these surveys.

If the Register considers it necessary, appropriate restrictive entries may be made in the classification or other certificates issued by the Register and in the Register of Ships. The restrictions are withdrawn subsequent to satisfactory results obtained in service.

1.4 DOCUMENTS

1.4.1 As a result of its activity, the Register issues relevant certificates:

.1 certificates confirming compliance with the requirements of Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships and rules for the classification and construction of particular types of ships;

.2 seaworthiness certificates stipulated by the Merchant Shipping Code;

.3 certificates stipulated by international conventions and codes;

.4 survey reports serving as the basis for issuing relevant certificates;

.5 certificates for products, materials, works, services and processes confirming their compliance with the requirements of the Register rules.

1.5 THE REGISTER RESPONSIBILITIES

1.5.1 The Register entrusts carrying out inspections to experts adequately skilled and performing their duties with proper diligence.

The Register is responsible for failure to perform or for improper performance of its commitments only when found guilty (by intent or carelessness).

The Register covers the losses to persons entering with it into contractual relations, as stipulated by the Rules, and whose losses result from its failure to per-

form or improper performance of its contractual commitments due to carelessness, to the amount not exceeding the contract fees determined on the basis of the Register scales of fees and provided solely the causal relationship has been proved between such failure to perform or improper performance of contractual commitments by the Register and the suffered losses.

1.6 CONFIDENTIALITY

1.6.1 The Register considers as confidential any information obtained in the course of rendering services and does not provide its contents or copies without prior agreement with the customer to outside organizations except for the following: in cases specified in the Register rules, upon the requirements of the current legislations, upon a decision of the court, on trials and at the request of flag states.

1.6.2 Notwithstanding the general duty of confidentiality owed by the Register to its customer in accordance with the Register rules, the Register participation in IACS Early Warning System requires each IACS member to provide its fellow IACS members with relevant technical information on serious hull structural and engineering systems failures to facilitate the proper working of IACS Early Warning System.

The Register will provide its customer with details of such information upon sending the same to IACS members.

2 SURVEYS

2.1 GENERAL

2.1.1 For the surveys to be carried out, the shipowners, administrations of shipyards, manufacturers and other enterprises shall ensure that the Register representatives have the opportunity to carry out ship surveys, as well as free access to all places where materials and products are manufactured and tested, and shall provide all conditions for the surveys to be carried out.

Where necessary, the Register may require to provide the access to surveyed items as well as the conditions for performing the work by Surveyors to the Register together with external auditors when the latter carry out audits of the Register quality management system.

2.1.2 Shipowners, shipyards, design bureaus and manufacturers shall fulfil the requirements of the Register or Surveyors to the Register when they are in the course of their duty.

2.1.3 Any alterations on the part of shipowners, shipyards, design bureaus and manufacturers in respect of ship and FOP materials and structures, as well as products, to which the requirements of the Rules apply shall be approved by the Register before they are put into service.

2.1.4 Controversial issues arising in connection with the Register activity may be transferred by shipowners, shipyards, manufacturers and other enterprises to the higher Register Branch Office. The judgement of the Register Head Office is final.

2.1.5 The Register may refuse from a survey in case a shipyard or manufacturer systematically violates the Rules or if the other party to a contract violates it.

2.1.6 When a material or product proves defective under a valid certificate, the Register may require additional tests or relevant repair to be carried out, and where the defects cannot be repaired, may cancel the certificate.

2.2.2 Materials and products within the Register terms of reference shall be manufactured in accordance with technical documentation approved by the Register.

2.2.3 During surveys, the Register may check compliance with structural, technological and production standards and processes which are not regulated by the Rules, but which may influence the fulfillment of the Rules requirements.

2.2.4 During ship and FOP construction or repair, manufacture of materials and products, the Register shall approve the application of new materials, products and processes, or those submitted to it for the first time, that are within its terms of reference. For this purpose, specimens of the material, product or the new process shall be tested in the scope agreed with the Register subsequent to their technical documentation being approved by the Register.

2.2.5 The Register surveys during the manufacture of materials and products are carried out by Surveyors to the Register, or may be entrusted by the Register to another classification body in accordance with Agreement on Mutual Substitution.

2.2.6 In cases specified by the Register, the manufacturing works will be surveyed by the Register to inspect the facilities for manufacturing materials and products complying with the Register requirements.

2.2.7 In the process of surveys during manufacture materials and products shall undergo the surveys and tests according to the procedures and within the scope prescribed by the Register.

2.2.8 Materials and products manufactured in accordance with the Register requirements shall be provided with the documents specified by the Register and, where necessary, the brands and marking enabling to determine their compliance with the above documents.

2.2.9 In sound cases, the Register may establish special conditions for the application of particular products.

2.2 SURVEYS DURING THE MANUFACTURE OF MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS

2.2.1 The relevant parts of the Rules contain lists of materials and products the manufacture of which shall be surveyed by the Register, as well as technological processes specified by the Register.

By special agreement, the Register may carry out the surveys of materials and products not mentioned in the above lists.

2.3 SURVEYS OF SHIPS AND FOP UNDER CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION AND CONVERSION

2.3.1 Surveys of ships and FOP under construction, reconstruction and conversion are carried out by Surveyors to the Register on the basis of technical documentation approved by the Register. The scope of examinations, measurements and tests during surveys is determined by the Register on the basis of current instructions and proceeding from the situation.

2.4 SURVEYS OF SHIPS AND FOP IN SERVICE

2.4.1 Surveys of ships and FOP in service is carried out according to Rules for the Classification Surveys of Ships in Service and other normative documents of the Register.

2.5 SURVEYS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

2.5.1 The requirements of the following international conventions and agreements, as well as amendments thereto, are taken into account in the relevant Rules:

International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, Protocols, 1978, 1988 thereto;

International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 and Protocol, 1978 thereto;

International Convention on Load Lines, 1966 and Protocol of 1988 Relating thereto (revised in 2003);

International Convention on Tonnage Measurement, 1969;

International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001;

International Convention on Occupation Safety and Health (Dock Work), 1979 (ILO 152);

Shipping Regulations for the Danube, 1975;

Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships of Inland Navigation, 1966;

International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972;

Final Acts of the World Administrative Radio Conference, 1997;

IMO Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk;

IMO Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk;

IMO Code of Safety for High-Speed Craft;

IMO Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units;

IMO Code of Safety for Special Purpose Ships;

IMO Code of Safety for Diving Systems;

inter-governmental agreements on load lines in force;

other normative documents used in international sea-going practice.

The provisions of the above conventions and agreements apply to ships engaged on international voyages.

2.5.2 Surveys of items falling under the requirements of international conventions and agreements are carried out in conformity with approved technical documentation and the normative documents of the Register considering the requirements of the above conventions and agreements.

Российский морской регистр судоходства
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