



सत्यमेव जयते

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पोत परिवहन मंत्रालय / MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

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MS Notice No. 13 of 2012

Sub: Notice to Shipowners and Ship Operators on extension of dry-docking, tail shaft and mandatory / statutory surveys of Indian Ships

The Directorate had issued guidelines for extensions of surveys vide MS Notice No 4 of 2008, MS Notice No 30 of 2009 and MS Notice 21 of 2011. In order to simplify the procedure for extension of surveys and to facilitate a “green channel” approach in processing the applications, the following procedure will be adopted for extension of statutory surveys:

- (1) The extension of renewal/docking surveys shall only be granted in accordance with the provisions under SOLAS/Loadline/MARPOL Conventions, MS Rules (including non-convention vessels and RSVs), and, MS Notices No 4 of 2008, 30 of 2009 and 21 of 2011. The applications shall be made by the top management (under ISM code) or the Designated Person.
- (2) All the extensions/exemptions shall continue to be approved by the Directorate as statutorily required. However, in order to facilitate expeditious processing, if the vessels covered under para (3)(a) below, meet all the criteria mentioned under para (3), the extension can be provisionally granted by the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) based on the application from the company / owner, as per the procedure at para (4), subject to ex-post facto approval by the Directorate within one month from receipt of such report from the IRS, as mentioned at para (5) below.
- (3) In the case of cargo ships which meet all the criteria mentioned hereunder (as on the date of presenting the application for extension of surveys), the owner / company may approach IRS directly for the purpose of extension:
  - (a) Cargo ships other than Offshore Support Vessels (OSVs), not more than 20 years of age, and OSVs not more than 15 years of age, are eligible for this “green channel” scheme. Such vessels having minimum (i.e. not more than three) CoCs with none of which having been given any extension; no major NCs in the preceding three consecutive SMC or DoC audits; no NC related to the extension being asked for during the DoC or SMC audit immediately preceding the application as stated above; and, no class / statutory surveys are due;

- (b) During the preceding three years the vessel is neither detained under PSC or FSI, nor involved in any casualty;
  - (c) No suspension of DoC or SMC in the preceding two years, and the DoC is not interim;
  - (d) The maximum permissible period of 36 months between docking is not exceeded with the extension;
  - (e) The GI / FSI, as the case may be, is satisfactorily completed as per MS Notice No 22 of 2011;
  - (f) The application for extension is received at the IRS, well before the surveys fall due; and
  - (g) The applicant has submitted documentary evidence to the IRS for having submitted the applicable fees in full to the Directorate as per M.S. Notice 21 of 2011, as amended from time to time.
- (4) IRS shall process the applications expeditiously after verifying that the vessel / company meets all the conditions mentioned at para (3) above. Before granting any survey extension, a general inspection (and in case, the extension sought is for dry-docking/renewal surveys beyond a period of one month, an inspection of the underwater hull using CCTV) and any other inspection / surveys as deemed necessary by IRS, shall be carried out. IRS shall satisfy themselves that the hull, machinery and the safety equipments are in a satisfactory condition for the purpose of the intended extension. On satisfactory completion of inspections / surveys and after receiving an undertaking from the Master & Chief Engineer of the vessel to the effect that the hull, machinery and safety equipments are in a satisfactory and seaworthy condition for the intended extension, IRS may grant a 'one-time' extension of docking / tailshaft / renewal surveys for a period not exceeding three months. The status of such extension remains provisional until the approval is granted by the Directorate, as mentioned at para 5 below. It shall be mentioned in the provisional extension letter issued by IRS that the extension so granted by them is under the authority delegated by the flag-administration, and is "provisional" subject to the final approval of the administration. Only after formal approval of such extension being granted by the Directorate, shall such extension be considered as being given in adherence to the relevant provisions in the applicable Conventions/rules. On receipt of final approval from DGS, the same shall be conveyed to the applicant.
- (5) IRS shall forward a report by 5<sup>th</sup> of every month to the Directorate indicating the details of all the extensions granted during the preceding calendar month (i.e., particulars of the vessel, date of receipt of application, date of issuance of extension, CoC's if any, conditions imposed, period of extension sought and granted, a copy of the surveyor's report and the certificates issued, reasons for delay if any, etc.), alongwith a declaration that the vessel complies with the criteria mentioned at para 3 above, for ex-post facto approval of the Directorate.
- (6) In case it is observed during the SMC / DoC audits of a particular ship / company that the number of NCs are exceptionally high, and the antecedents of the company in this regard indicate that suitable corrective action have not been taken, the green channel facility to such ships / companies is liable to be discontinued.

- (7) While acquiring vessels which are not newly built, exemptions granted by the previous flag administration in accordance with the provisions of the respective conventions, shall remain valid for a period of three months (or till such time the exemption granted by the previous flag remains valid, whichever is earlier), in order to facilitate the operation of the vessel. However, if further extension of the validity of such exemption is required, company shall approach the DGS within the period for which the exemption remains valid.
- (8) Compliance of the provisions of this MS Notice will be assessed annually, with a view to increasingly bring verification of compliance of the regulatory requirements or exemptions thereto, directly under the IRS or other ROs, particularly for companies which are able to show objective evidence of effective "self-regulation".
- (9) The records pertaining to all the extensions granted by IRS shall be made available during the periodical audit of IRS by DGS. Non-adherence of this Notice as relevant, either by the company (as referred to in the ISM Code) or by the IRS, may however, constrain the Directorate to reconsider the intent and scope of the "green channel" facility as detailed in the foregoing.

The effect of this notice on the performance of the Indian fleet shall be reviewed every year alongwith the review of FSI/PSC annual reports.

The above procedure shall come into force from the date of issue of this MS Notice.

This issues with the approval of Director General of Shipping and ex-officio Additional Secretary to the Government of India



(Aji Vasudevan)  
Deputy Chief Ship Surveyor

Copy to:

1. NA / CS /CSS/ Dy. CS (M)/ Dy. NA (S)/ Dy. CSS
2. Principal Officer, MMD: Mumbai / Kolkata / Chennai / Kandla / Kochi.
3. Surveyor-in-Charge, MMD: Goa, Jamnagar, Mangalore, Vishakhapatnam, Tuticorin, Haldia, Paradip, Port Blair and Noida.
4. All Major ports.
5. Computer Cell and Hindi Cell for translation and uploading on website.
6. INSA, ICCSA
7. Indian Register of Shipping, 52A, Adi Shankaracharya Marg, Opp. Powai Lake, Powai, Mumbai - 400072.
8. All Classification Societies
9. PS to DG for information
10. PS to Jt.DG for information