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		Sign.	Per M. Indreeide

Issue: Instructions to recognized organisations (RO) and companies operating oil tankers flying Norwegian Flag regarding performance and compliance with the Condition Assessment Scheme – CAS – as set out in Resolution MEPC.94(46).

- Recalling Regulation (EC) 417/2002 as amended by (EC) 1726/2003.
- Recalling Resolution MEPC.94(46) as amended by MEPC.99(48) and MEPC.112(50)
- Recalling NIS circular no. 3/2004.

In accordance with section 11.1 of resolution MEPC.94(46), the Norwegian Maritime Directorate (NMD) is hereby issuing the document : "Instructions to Recognized Organisations (RO) and Companies operating oil tankers flying Norwegian Flag", as enclosed.

The instruction specifies work to be performed by RO on behalf of NMD, and work to be carried out by Companies to enable them to comply with requirements set out in Resolution MEPC.94(46).

This circular applies to tankers registered in the Norwegian Ordinary Register (NOR) and the Norwegian International Register (NIS).

Enclosure : "Instructions to Recognized Organisations (RO) and Companies operating oil tankers flying Norwegian Flag.

Sjøfartsdirektoratet
Norwegian Maritime Directorate

INSTRUCTION TO RECOGNIZED ORGANISATIONS (RO) AND COMPANIES OPERATING CATEGORY 2 AND 3 OIL TANKERS FLYING NORWEGIAN FLAG

FOR

THE NORWEGIAN MARITIME DIRECTORATE

TO MONITOR THE PERFORMANCE OF AND VERIFY COMPLIANCE WITH

THE CONDITION ASSESSMENT SCHEME - CAS
AS SET OUT BY REGULATION MEPC.94(46)
amended by MEPC.99(48) and MEPC.112(50)

The purpose of the Condition Assessment Scheme - CAS - as set by resolution MEPC.94(46), amended by MEPC.99(48) and MEPC.115(50), is to provide an international standard to meet the requirements of the revised regulation 13G in annex I of MARPOL 73/78.

The Norwegian Maritime Directorate (hereafter named NMD) has, for the purpose of ensuring uniform and consistent implementation of the CAS as set by resolution MEPC.94(46), issued this instruction through which NMD will monitor the performance, and verify the compliance of the Recognized Organisations (hereafter named RO) for the work they carry out on its behalf, and the Owners / Operators / Managements operating category 2 and 3 oil tankers under Norwegian flag (hereafter named Company). It should be noted that in case of any differences between this instruction and MEPC.94(46), the latter shall be valid. Where "regulation" is mentioned in the text, it refers to MARPOL 73/78 annex I.

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1. CAS requirements

1.1. Application

The requirements of the CAS apply to :

1.1.1. Oil tankers of 5 000 tons deadweight and above and of 15 years and over after date of delivery of the ship, in accordance with regulation 13G(6).

1.1.2. Oil tankers subject to the provisions of regulation 13G(7), where authorization is requested for continued service beyond the anniversary of the date of delivery of the ship in 2010.

1.1.3. Oil tankers of 5 000 tons deadweight and above and of 15 years and over after the date of delivery of the ship, carrying crude oil as cargo having a density at 15 deg.C higher than 900 kg/m3 but lower than 945 kg/m3, in accordance with regulation 13H(6)(a).

1.2. Scope

The CAS shall apply to surveys of the hull structure in way of cargo tanks, pump rooms, cofferdams, pipe tunnels, void spaces within the cargo area and all ballast tanks.

1.3. Timing

1.3.1. The CAS survey shall be aligned to the Enhanced Programme of Inspection.

1.3.2. The first CAS survey in accordance with regulation 13G(6) shall be carried out concurrent with the first scheduled intermediate or renewal survey after 5. April 2005, or when the ship reaches 15 years of age, whichever occurs later.

1.3.3. The first CAS survey in accordance with regulation 13G(7) shall be carried out concurrent with the scheduled intermediate or renewal survey due prior to the anniversary of the date of the delivery of the ship in 2010.

NMD will require that Category 2 and Category 3 oil tankers which are subject to the provisions of regulation 13G(7) remains out of service during the periods referred to in paragraph 1.1.2. of this procedure until these tankers are issued with a valid Statement of Compliance.

1.3.4. The first CAS survey in accordance with regulation 13H(6)(a) shall be carried out concurrent with the first scheduled intermediate or renewal survey after 5. April 2005.

1.3.5. In the case where a Statement of Compliance issued following the first CAS survey under 1.3.2. is valid beyond the anniversary of the date of delivery of the ship in 2010, that CAS survey may be treated as the first CAS carried out in compliance with regulation 13G(7).

1.3.6. Any subsequent CAS survey, required for the renewal of the Statement of Compliance, shall be carried out at intervals not exceeding 5 years and 6 months.

1.3.7. Notwithstanding the above, the Company may, with the agreement of NMD, opt to carry out the CAS survey at a date earlier than the due date of the survey referred to above, provided that all the requirements of the CAS are complied with.

2. Survey planning

Nothing in this instruction prevents NMD from carrying out the CAS Survey itself.

2.1. Notation of intention to proceed with CAS

The Company shall submit to NMD and the RO a notification if its intention to proceed with the CAS not less than 8 months prior to the planned commencement of the CAS Survey.

2.2. Survey planning questionnaire

Upon receipt of the notification the RO shall issue to the Company a Survey Planning Questionnarie (based on MEPC.94(46), appendix 2) not later than 7 months prior to the planned commencement of the CAS Survey, and advice whether there have been any changes to the maximum acceptable structural corrosion diminution levels applicable to the ship.

The Company shall complete and return the questionnaire to the RO not less than 5 months prior to the planned commencement of the CAS Survey. A copy of the completed questionnaire shall be forwarded by the Company to NMD.

2.3. Survey plan

A CAS Survey Plan (based on MEPC.94(46), appendix 3) shall be developed by the Company in cooperation with the RO. NMD may participate in the development of the Survey Plan.
When developing the Survey Plan, documentation as specified under MEPC.94(46), section 6.2.1. shall be collected and reviewed.
RO shall be fully satisfied that the Survey Plan complies with the requirements of MEPC.94(46), section 6.2.2.

The Survey Plan shall be completed and submitted in signed order by the Company to the RO not less than 2 months prior to the planned commencement of the CAS Survey. A copy of the Survey Plan shall be forwarded by the Company to NMD.

2.4. Relaxation of time frames

NMD may in case of special circumstances, on a case by case basis, relax the time frames outlined under this section.
Such relaxation will, at all times, be subject to the RO having sufficient time to complete the CAS survey and issue the Interim Statement of Compliance under regulation 13G(6) or 13H(6)(a), or NMD to review the Final Report and issue the Statement of Compliance under regulation 13G(7), as applicable, prior to the re-entry of the ship into service.

3. CAS Survey

3.1. Preparations

The conditions for the CAS Survey, the conditions and method of access to the structures, the equipment for the CAS Survey and the communication arrangements implemented during the CAS Survey shall meet the mandatory requirements for the safe conduct of CAS set out in MEPC.94(46), appendix 4.

Prior to the commencement of any part of the CAS Survey a meeting shall be held between the RO attending surveyor(s), the Company's representatives in attendance, the TM firm Operator (as applicable) and the Master of the ship for the purpose of ascertaining that all arrangements envisaged in the Survey Plan are in place, and to ensure the safe and efficient execution of the survey work to be carried out.

3.2. Personnel

RO shall keep records of the qualifications and experience of the surveyors and of other personnel assigned to carry out work for the CAS.
RO qualified surveyors shall have documented experience in carrying out intermediate and renewal surveys in accordance with the Enhanced Survey Program for tankers.

3.3. Survey

The CAS Survey shall be carried out by not less than 2 qualified surveyors of the RO. One qualified surveyor of the RO shall attend onboard during the taking of the thickness measurements.

Whenever the attending surveyors are of the opinion that repairs are required, each item to be repaired shall be identified in a numbered list. Whenever repairs are carried out, details of the repairs effected shall be reported by making specific reference to relevant items in the numbered list.

Whenever the surveyors are of the opinion that it is acceptable to defer hull repairs beyond the due date previously assigned, such a decision shall not be left to the sole discretion of the attending surveyors. The RO headquarter shall be consulted in such circumstances and shall give specific approval to the recommended action.

An overall survey shall be carried out of all spaces mentioned under paragraph 1.2.
Extent of close-up surveys shall be those set out in MEPC.94(46), section 7.2.
Extent of thickness measurements shall be those set out in MEPC.94(46), section 7.3.
Acceptance criteria shall be those set out in resolution A.744(18).

3.4. Reports

A report of the CAS Survey shall be completed and signed by the attending surveyors. The report shall include all details set out in MEPC 94(46), section 9.
The RO headquarters shall carry out a verification review of the CAS Survey report, the documents, photographs and other records relating to the CAS Survey, for the purpose of ascertaining and confirming that the requirements of the CAS have been met.

The RO reviewing personnel shall not be engaged in any way whatsoever with the CAS survey.

3.5. CAS final report to NMD

The RO shall prepare a CAS Final Report to NMD upon completion of the CAS Survey, and following the review of the CAS Survey reports by the RO's headquarters.
The CAS Final Report shall, at least, include all information requested in MEPC.94(46), section 10.2.3.

The CAS Final Report shall be submitted by the RO to NMD without delay, and:

- In the case of CAS Survey in accordance with regulation 13G(6) or 13H(6)(a), not later than 3 months after the completion of the CAS Survey.

- In the case of CAS Survey in accordance with regulation 13G(7), not later than 3 months after the completion of the CAS survey, or 2 months prior to the date the ship is required to be issued with a Statement of Compliance, whichever occurs earlier.

3.6. Interim certificate

The RO shall, when the CAS survey has been satisfactory completed in accordance with regulations 13G(6) or 13H(6)(a), issue an Interim Statement of Compliance in a form corresponding the model given in MEPC.94(46), appendix 1 – page 2, for a period not exceeding 5 months. It shall remain valid until its expiry date or the date of issue of a Statement of Compliance, whichever is the earlier date, and shall be accepted by other Parties of MARPOL 73/78.

4. Verification of the CAS by NMD

4.1. Review of the CAS Final Report

The CAS Final Report shall be reviewed by NMD prior to the issue of the Statement of Compliance. NMD will produce a Review Record in which the findings of the review, and NMD's decision as to the acceptance or rejection of the CAS Final Report, will be recorded.

4.2. Re-assessment of a ship failing to meet the CAS requirements

A ship which has failed to meet the CAS requirements may be submitted for the CAS re-assessment. The grounds of which NMD declined the issue of a Statement of Compliance to the ship will be documented in the Review Record.
The re-assessment shall, as a rule, be carried out by the RO who produced the CAS Final Report and NMD.

The CAS re-assessment shall be carried out as soon as possible, and in any case not later than 6 months following the date on which NMD has made the decision to decline the issue of a Statement of Compliance.

5. Statement of compliance

5.1. Issuing

The statement of compliance will be issued to each ship which completes the CAS to NMD's satisfaction.
Such statement shall be issued:

- In the case of the CAS in accordance with regulation 13G(6) or 13H(6)(a), not later than 5 months after the completion of the CAS Survey.

- In the case of the CAS in accordance with regulation 13G(7), not later than 5 months after the completion of the CAS Survey, or the anniversary of the date of delivery of the ship in 2010, whichever occurs earlier, for the first CAS Survey, and not later than the expiry date of the Statement of Compliance for any subsequent CAS Survey.

5.2. Validity

The validity of a Statement of Compliance will not exceed 5 years and 6 months from the date of completion of the CAS survey.

NMD will:

- Suspend and/or withdraw the Statement of Compliance of a ship if it no longer complies with the requirements of the CAS.
- Withdraw the Statement of Compliance of a ship if it is no longer entitled to fly its flag.

5.3. Submitting

The original of the Statement of Compliance, together with one copy of the Final Report which was reviewed by NMD and one copy of the Review Record, will be submitted by NMD to the ship.

One certified copy of the Statement of Compliance together with one copy of the Review Record will be submitted by NMD to the RO headquarter.

5.4. Filing

The original of the Statement of Compliance shall be filed onboard the ship as a supplement to the ship's IOPP certificate.
In addition, the submitted copies of the Final Report and the Review Record shall be placed onboard the ship to accompany the Statement of Compliance.

The certified copy of the Statement of Compliance and the copy of the Review Record submitted to the RO shall be filed by the RO together with the CAS Final Report.