
Z18 Periodical Survey of Machinery

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(Rev.1
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(Rev.2
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Note: 1. Ex-M20 was re-categorized as Z18 in November 2001, excluding section M20.2 “Surveys of Propeller Shafts and Tube Shafts” which was separately relocated to Z21.
2. The changes introduced in Rev.1 are to be uniformly applied by IACS Societies on surveys commenced on or after 1 January 2007.
3. The changes introduced in Rev.2 are to be uniformly applied by IACS Societies on surveys commenced on or after 1 January 2008. ►

1. General Requirements

1.1 Special Surveys¹

1.1.1 Special Surveys are to be carried out at 5 years intervals to renew the Class Certificate.

1.1.2 The first Special Survey is to be completed within 5 years from the date of the initial classification survey and thereafter 5 years from the credited date of the previous Special Survey. However, an extension of class of 3 months maximum beyond the 5th year can be granted in exceptional circumstances.

In this case, the next period of class will start from the expiry date of the Special Survey before the extension was granted.

1.1.3 For surveys completed within 3 months before the expiry date of the Special Survey, the next period of class will start from the expiry date of the Special Survey. For surveys completed more than 3 months before the expiry date of the Special Survey, the period of class will start from the survey completion date.

1.1.4 The Special Survey may be commenced at the 4th Annual Survey and be progressed with a view to completion by the 5th anniversary date. When the Special Survey is commenced prior to the 4th Annual Survey, the entire survey is to be completed within 15 months if such work is to be credited to the Special Survey.

1.2 Annual Surveys

Annual Surveys are to be held within 3 months before or after each anniversary date of the date of the initial classification survey or the completion of the last Special Survey. They will normally be performed at the same time as an Annual Hull or Load Line survey.

1.3 Continuous Surveys

Special Surveys of machinery may be carried out on a continuous survey basis. In this case, the interval between consecutive examinations of each item is not to exceed five (5) years.

2. Survey of Steam Boilers

2.1 Water tube boilers used for main propulsion, including reheat boilers, all other boilers of essential service, and boilers of non-essential service having working pressure exceeding 0.35 N/mm² (3.5 bar) and a heating surface exceeding 4.5 m², are to be surveyed internally. There is to be a minimum of two internal examinations during each 5-year special survey period. In all cases the interval between any two such examinations is not to exceed 36 months.

¹ Some Member Societies use the term "Special Periodical Survey", others the term "Class Renewal Survey" instead of the terms "Special Survey".



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At each survey, the boilers, superheaters, and economizers are to be examined internally *on water-steam side and fire side*. Boiler mountings and safety valves are to be examined at each survey and opened out as considered necessary by the Classification Society.

The adjustment of the safety valves is to be verified during each boiler internal survey. Boiler safety valve and its relieving gear are to be examined and tested to verify satisfactory operation. However, for exhaust gas heated economizers, if steam cannot be raised at port, the safety valves may be set by the Chief Engineer at sea, and the results recorded in the log book for review by the Classification Society.

Review of the following records since the last Boiler Survey is to be carried out as part of the survey:

- Operation
- Maintenance
- Repair history
- Feedwater chemistry

2.2 External survey of boilers including test of safety and protective devices, and test of safety valve using its relieving gear, is to be carried out annually, within the window of the Annual Survey of a ship. For exhaust gas heated economizers, the safety valves are to be tested by the Chief Engineer at sea within the annual survey window. This test is to be recorded in the log book for review by the attending Surveyor prior to crediting the Annual Survey of Machinery.

2.3 An extension of the internal examination of the boiler up to 3 months beyond the due date can be granted in exceptional circumstances¹. The extension may be granted by the Classification Society after the following is satisfactorily carried out:

- i)* External examination of the boiler
- ii)* Boiler safety valve relieving gear (easing gear) is to be examined and operationally tested
- iii)* Boiler protective devices operationally tested
- iv)* Review of the following records since the last Boiler Survey:
 - Operation
 - Maintenance
 - Repair history
 - Feedwater chemistry

2.4 Exhaust Gas Heated Economizers

In addition to the other requirements of 2.1 (*internal examination*) in exhaust gas heated economizers of the shell type, *all* accessible welded joints are to be subjected to a *visual* examination for cracking. Nondestructive Testing may be required for this purpose.

¹"Exceptional circumstances", e.g. means unavailability of repair facilities, unavailability of essential materials, equipment or spare parts, or delays incurred by action taken to avoid severe weather conditions.



3. Propulsion Steam Turbines: Modification of First Special Survey

3.1 Where the propulsion steam turbines are of a well known type, and fitted with rotor position indicators and vibration indicators of an approved type, as well as measuring equipment of steam pressure at proper locations along the steam flow, and the arrangements for change over in case of emergency operation of the plant are readily operable, the first Special Survey may be limited to the examination of rotor bearings, thrust bearings and flexible couplings, provided the surveyor has been satisfied from operation service records and power trials subsequent to the survey, that the turbine plant is in good working condition.

3.2 Turbine casings should be opened at the next Special Survey and subsequent Special Surveys.

4. Machinery Verification Runs

4.1 At the time of drydocking, a dock trial is to be carried out to attending Surveyors' satisfaction to confirm satisfactory operation of main and auxiliary machinery. If significant repairs are carried out to main or auxiliary machinery or steering gear, consideration should be given to a sea trial to attending Surveyors' satisfaction.

4.2 This requirement applies to all member Societies and Associates from 1 January 2001.

Note: Special consideration may be given in application of relevant sections of this Unified Requirement to commercial vessels owned or chartered by Governments, which are utilized in support of military operations or service.

