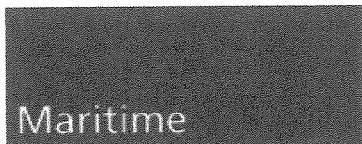


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## Steam boilers: DNV to focus on a general condition assessment

### DNV refocuses efforts to manage safety issues for ageing steam boilers.

Over the years, DNV has received several reports of incidents involving different types of steam boilers causing fatal accidents and material damage, especially oil-fired auxiliary boilers older than ten years.

Considering the severe consequences that equipment malfunction can have on crew safety and ship operations, steam boilers represent a high potential risk factor. Improperly maintained boilers can result in a furnace explosion or cause a rupture of the pressurized parts commonly used on board ships to day.

To help customers manage this issue, DNV has made recommendations in advance of the first boiler survey for all boilers above nine years of age.

- Properly cleaning the boiler's water - and fire/gas side prior to the survey is essential for the quality of the examination as signs of damage may be hidden under soot, rust, sludge or scales.
- Inspectors will perform a general internal examination of both water- and fire/gas side, with a special focus on the drums and headers, welding seams for possible cracks, corrosion, pitting and wastage. If the damage described above is found, thickness measurements and/or other non-destructive testing methods will be performed.
- In the event that the boiler design prohibits a proper visual examination, insulation must be removed to allow inspectors access. Additional, non- destructive testing may be required if the internal inspection, accessed by manholes/handholes, indicates significant corrosion, pitting and wastage.
- For boilers with sliding feet, the marking patterns will be verified in order to confirm whether or not the boiler expands freely during operation.

The experience gained from these surveys will help DNV in its continuous efforts to improve the rules and survey procedures.

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