

**RULES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION  
AND CONSTRUCTION OF SEA-GOING SHIPS**



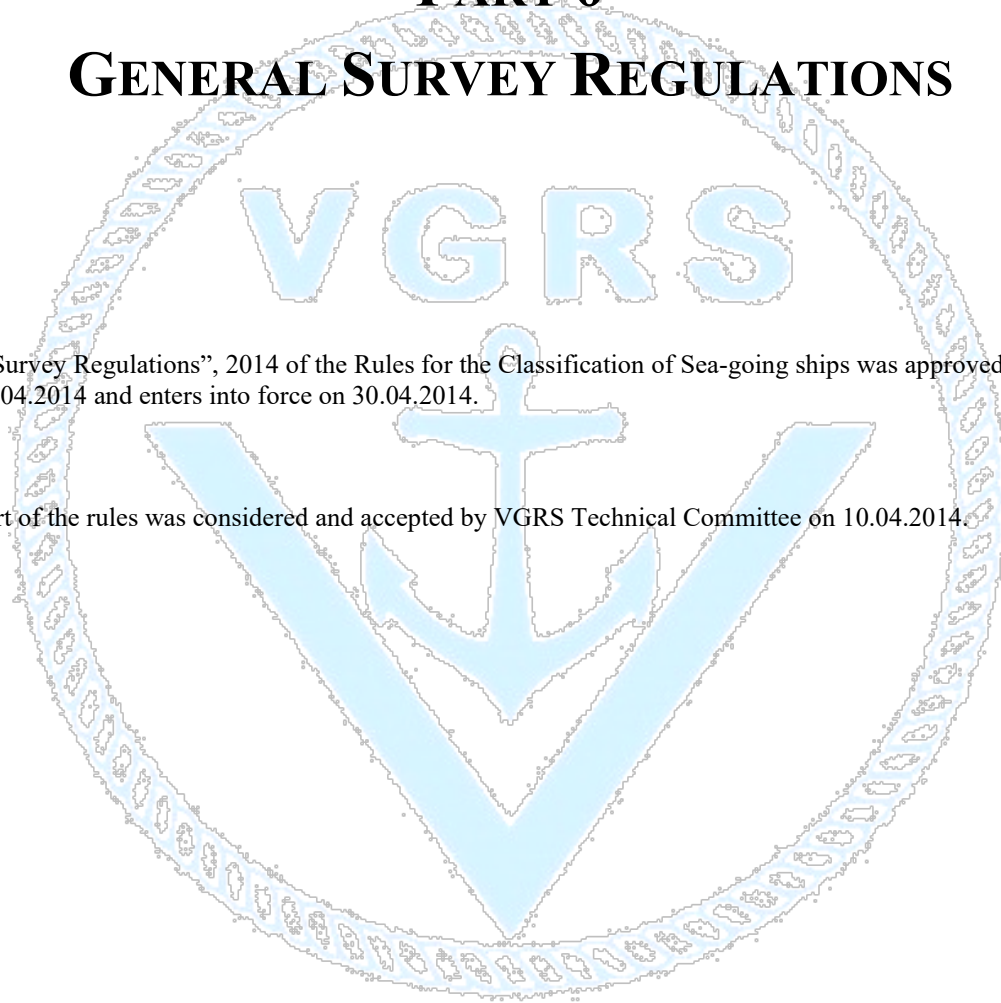
**PART 0  
GENERAL SURVEY REGULATIONS  
2022**

**VEGA REGISTER INC.**

**RULES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION  
AND CONSTRUCTION OF SEA-GOING SHIPS  
PART 0  
GENERAL SURVEY REGULATIONS**

Part “General Survey Regulations”, 2014 of the Rules for the Classification of Sea-going ships was approved by VGRS Director on 23.04.2014 and enters into force on 30.04.2014.

The present part of the rules was considered and accepted by VGRS Technical Committee on 10.04.2014.



**RULES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF SEA-GOING SHIPS** consist of the following, separately edited, and Parts:

- Part 1 - Classification Regulations
- Part 2 - Hull
- Part 3 - Hull Equipment
- Part 4 - Stability and Subdivision
- Part 5 - Fire Protection
- Part 6 - Machinery Installations and Refrigerating Plants
- Part 7 - Machinery, Boilers and Pressure Vessels
- Part 8 - Electrical Equipment and Automation
- Part 9 - Materials and Welding



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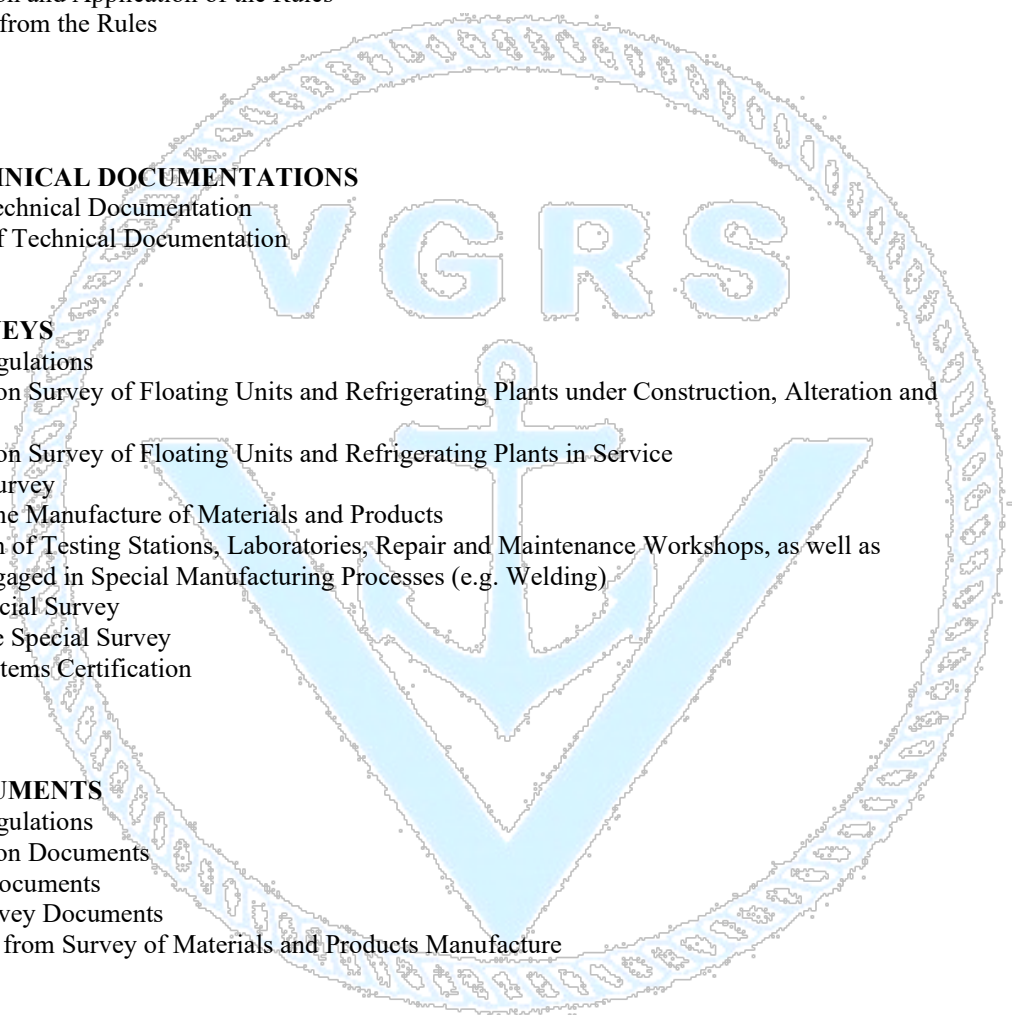
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## 1 GENERAL

### 1.1 Bases of Operation

**1.1.1** VEGA REGISTER INC. (VGRS) is a classification society, which conducts an independent survey activity and operates according to the principles defined in VGRS Articles of Association, the present “General Survey Regulations” and VGRS Rules. VGRS provides its services in the National and international areas.

**1.1.2** VGRS services are based on a system of surveys as regards ships in service – on periodical surveys. VGRS assumes that at intervals between the relevant surveys, the ship and its equipment will be maintained in Accordance with the requirements of the VGRS Rules.

**1.1.3** VGRS work is based on the understanding that parties participating in the services rendered by the Society (Shipyards, manufacturers, Owners, etc.) Duly fulfil their obligations. The survey activities, carried out by VGRS and the issue of documents do not absolve designers, builders, Owners, manufacturers, suppliers, Operators or other parties from their obligations and responsibilities for no fulfilment or improper Execution of obligations undertaken.

**1.1.4** When conducting surveys, VGRS acts independently and cannot be considered the customer’s representative. An exception to this rule is a case when representing the customer constitutes the subject of the request – e.g., survey conducted on behalf of the Owner. Documents, statements, certificates, reports, recommendations or any other information, issued by VGRS, constitute only a statement of conformity with the requirements provided by VGRS Rules or other documents adopted by VGRS and the customer as the basis of VGRS activity and do not substitute certificates, statements and warranties issued by manufacturers.

**1.1.5** In carrying out survey activities, VGRS makes efforts to ensure that they are conducted with conscientiousness and the principles of good practice, with due regard paid to the state-of -the -art technology. However, neither VGRS nor its Surveyors shall bear any civil liability for damage, loss or expense which may arise in consequence or as the outcome of conducting these activities, or the result of information or advice given to the customer by VGRS, irrespective of whether or not such were the result of neglect, error or lack of proper information. Nevertheless, should the customer prove that such damage loss or expense was due to negligence on the part of the Society or its Surveyors, VGRS will pay compensation to the customer for his loss up to but not exceeding the amount due for activity, information or advice forming the basis of the customer’s claim. In no case will VGRS be responsible for Indirect losses (loss of prospective profits, loss of contract, inability to undertake activities, etc.) sustained By the customer and associated with the executing of a commission by VGRS.

**1.1.6** VGRS survey activities are provided at the request of the Owner or manufacturer of the object to be Surveyed or at the Underwriter’s request.

**1.1.7** Payment for VGRS activities is specified in the survey contract made with the customer or in current VGRS Fee Tariff. In the case of non-settlement of accounts within the period stated in the contract or ensuing from the rules of law, VGRS will add interest and may withhold the issue of documents, which constitute the result of the provided services.

### 1.2 General Regulations

**1.2.1** The present “General Survey Regulations” specify the way of utilising VGRS Rules, the procedure for the approval of technical documentation, the procedure and forms of survey performance, kind of the issued documents, as well as the scope and means of providing other VGRS services.

**1.2.2** For the purpose of the “General Survey Regulations”, the following shortened forms have been adopted:

- “Regulations” – the present “General Survey Regulations”,
- “Rules” – VGRS Rules or part thereof relating to the object concerned,
- “Conventions” – international conventions related to the safety of shipping and the environment protection.

**1.2.3** Definitions, given in paragraph 1.3, are used in the present Regulations and in all VGRS Rules. Other definitions, such as those, for instance, relating to the types of floating units, kind of surveys, technical terminology is given in the appropriate Parts of the Rules.

#### **1.2.4**

The conditions of services illustrated here below shall apply to the provision by the society “VEGA Register, herein-after referred to as “VEGA Register, classification society, and / or VGRS of its services, information or advice of whatever nature related to the Classification of ships or installations and shall be deemed to be or treated as being applicable for all applications submitted by third parties, in this respect. For statutory work please refer to below point Nr 1.2.4.....

##### **1.2.4.1**

“Classification” process is consisted by:

- a) the development or update and implementation of Rules and Regulations, Guides, standards and other verified criteria,
- b) the review of ships design and survey (during or after construction), to verify compliance with such Rules & Regulations, Guides, standards and other verified criteria and c) the assignment of a classification character and registration into the society’s Register of Ships once such compliance has been verified. Continued compliance and/or construction supervision is conditional upon Classification determined provisions and proper care, conduct and responsibility from the side of the ship owners or operators.

##### **1.2.4.2**

The ship’s owner, operator or his representative will proceed to make the necessary preparations for the ship to be ready to undertake the requested surveys or other services in a prompt manner. Ship owners or operators are responsible for establishing and maintaining safe working conditions in accordance with the applicable safety standards and for providing VGRS surveyors or auditors with safe access to sites and assistance during surveys, audits, testing and trials.

##### **1.2.4.3**

VGRS shall exercise due care and shall act with professionalism and workmanship. Surveyors apply normally accepted examination and testing standards to those items specified for each survey by the Rules, construction or survey procedures and safety related standards.

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##### **1.2.4.4**

VGRS will in its sole and absolute discretion determine the practices and procedures to be adopted for the tests, inspections and surveys to be carried out by its surveyors. The right for the selection, appointment or the replacement of an VGRS surveyor remains only with the VGRS.

##### **1.2.4.5**

Classification Services are offered in compliance with the valid VGRS Rules and Regulations for the meaning and interpretation of which VGRS is the sole qualified to decide upon.

##### **1.2.4.6**

The ship and/or installation shall be properly maintained and operated under the sole responsibility of the ship owner or manager, at all times and between the surveys periodicity, as applicable. Ship’s owner or operators – at their sole

responsibility- must promptly report to VGRS any incident or event which may affect the condition of the ship or its classification status, as soon as practical, after its occurrence for the necessary actions towards the maintenance of class.

#### 1.2.4.7

Any Classification certification, reports, records or other documents issued pursuant to surveys carried out by the society's surveyors, reflect the condition of the ship or installation at the time of surveys. Therefore, nothing in the present conditions, or in any certificate, or report, or record issued shall be deemed to create any interest, right, claim or benefit in any insurer or other third party.

#### 1.2.4.8

It is understood and agreed that the issue of Classification certificates or the performance of services shall be at the sole discretion of VGRS and that VGRS reserves the right to withhold or withdraw classification, certificates or services for lack of conformity with its Rules or for any other reason, whether or not such reason be deemed by the other party to be unreasonable, arbitrary or un-forceable. VGRS reserves the right to reconsider, withhold, suspend, withdraw or cancel the class of any vessel with immediate effect for non-compliance with the society's Rules or other applicable standards, for defects or damages which are not reported to VGRS, for defects reported by its Surveyors and which have not been rectified in accordance with their recommendations or in the event of non-payment of fees which are due on account of Classification or other services. Repetitive PSC detentions of an VGRSed vessel, may also affect her classification status with the society, provided that detainable items are considered to have an effect towards ship's compliance with classification Rules and Regulations. VGRS may also deem the classification of any vessel cancelled upon the vessel's sale or transfer without prior written notice to VGRS.

#### 1.2.4.9

All work performed on behalf of Flag Administrations shall be governed by the applicable International Conventions as adopted by each Flag State, their National requirements as well as the terms and conditions of this document unless the Flag Administration specifies otherwise. VGRS acts independently in the performance of its services and neither the society nor any of its officers, directors, employees or agents shall -during the expedition of services in accordance with the conditions stipulated herein- be or considered to act as officers, directors, employees or agents of any other third party, including but not limited to a shipyard, operator, charterer or insurer. All documents, drawings and information provided to the VGRS in connection with the performance of its services are treated as confidential by the society and shall not, without the prior consent of the party providing such documents or information, be disclosed for any purpose other than that for which they are provided. Results of surveys performed by VGRS surveyors or auditors as well as ship's records are treated in the same manner as above illustrated. The contents or copies of certificates, survey results, information or reports, may be disclosed as required by applicable legislation, court order, legal proceedings or adherence to the request of the Flag Administration or Port state control Authorities and in line with the provisions of the society's related Quality procedure.

### 1.3 Definitions

**Classification documentation** – technical documentation, submitted to VGRS for consideration, containing data enabling to ascertain conformity of the design with the requirements of the relevant classification Rules.

**Statutory documentation** – technical documentation, submitted to VGRS for consideration, containing data enabling to ascertain conformity of the design with the requirements of the relevant conventions, national regulations, as well as VGRS Rules.

**Workshop documentation** – technical documentation for the needs of workshop and VGRS Surveyors, prepared on the basis of the approved classification or statutory documentation, agreed with VGRS Surveyor conducting the construction or manufacture survey.

**Survey activities** – inspection, verification and acceptance work performed by VGRS Surveyors.

**Service manual** – the essential part of service technical documentation forwarded, together with the appliance, by the manufacturer to the user.

**Floating unit** – an object constructed or adapted to float. This expression covers, inter alia, ships, mobile offshore drilling units, floating docks, submersibles, yachts.

**Floating unit under construction** – a floating unit from the date of the start VGRS construction supervision till the

date of the issue of class documents.

**Floating unit in service** – a floating unit from the date of the issue of class documents till the date of its withdrawal from the Register.

**Material** – the basic substance of which a structure or product is made, irrespective of whether or not it has been subjected to any treatment prior to being used in building the structure or the product manufacture.

**Quality systems certification** – a set of activities aimed at checking the operation of the quality system or the safety management system.

**Classification survey** – technical survey of a floating unit or plant under construction or in service, within the scope specified by the relevant classification Rules.

**Statutory survey** – technical survey carried out under the authority of State organ, within the scope specified by the relevant conventions, national regulations, as well as the appropriate VGRS Rules.

**Special survey** – technical survey other than quality systems certification, classification or statutory survey, carried out at the request of an institution or person, within the scope specified by the customer.

**Technical survey** – a set of activities aimed at ascertaining that the surveyed object conforms to the specified technical requirements.

**Standards** – international, national and branch standards.

**Rules** – VGRS Rules containing sets of technical and survey requirements for different floating units, their installations, equipment or appliances covered by the VGRS activity.

**Publications** – VGRS Publications containing supplementary or subsidiary texts to VGRS Rules, published officially and indicated with number.

Publications marked with letter “P” complete and extend the Rules. Their application is obligatory.

**Register (Register Book)** – a list of floating units subject to VGRS survey, with information on the Owner, VGRS class, dimension particulars, general technical data and survey status.

**Safety appliance** – a fixed or movable appliance required by international conventions or regulations of the State whose flag the ship is flying.

**Additional requirements** – the requirements imposed by VGRS during survey activities, but not included in the Rules. These requirements are agreed with the Owner, shipyards or manufacturers.

**Product** – mechanism, appliance, structure or any other object consisting of many elements.

## 1.4 VGRS Services

### 1.4.1 Classification

Classification activity consists, principally, in the development and issue of the classification Rules. The Rules, taking into account the applicable provisions of international conventions, specify technical requirements which ensure:

- the ship’s strength and, where necessary, the watertight integrity of all elements of the ship’s hull and its superstructures,
- adequate level of safety and reliability of the propulsion and auxiliary machinery essential to ensure that the ship is fit for its intended service.

Furthermore, by performing classification survey of different types of floating units under construction and/or in service, VGRS verifies the implementation of the Rules requirements.

VGRS conducts also classification survey of refrigerating plants under construction or in service, after installation on board.

A ship built according to the Rules is assigned VGRS class, which is entered in the Register Book and the ship’s classification documents.

“Classification Regulations”, which are part of the Rules, determine the scope and system of surveys of ships in service, carried out by VGRS Surveyors in order to ascertain the ship’s compliance with the requirements of the Rules.

Materials, products and appliances, covered by classification Rules, are also manufactured under VGRS survey.

### 1.4.2 Statutory Services

Statutory services consist in VGRS participation in implementing the provisions of international conventions and national regulations not covered by VGRS classification Rules.

VGRS conducts statutory survey of ships and their equipment in a way and scope specified in authorizations delegated by Governments or State Administrations.

In this work, VGRS applies international conventions and national regulations, as well as VGRS Rules for the convention equipment.



Statutory surveys are performed according to Conventions: SOLAS, COLREG, MARPOL, Convention on Load Lines, Convention for Safe Containers, Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships and ILO No.12, ILO No.133 and ILO No.152 Conventions.

Upon agreement with the customer, VGRS may carry out statutory surveys according to other conventions. Materials, products and appliances covered by the provisions of international conventions, national regulations or VGRS Rules for the convention equipment are to be manufactured under VGRS survey. VGRS issues statutory documents within the scope of authorization delegated.

### **1.4.3 Special Services**

Special services consist in conducting technical surveys or other work (e.g. expert services) specified by customers in contracts signed with VGRS, but not covered by the services mentioned in 1.4.1, 1.4.2 and 1.4.4.

The customer may, in this case, use the documentation, referred to in the contract, standards or his own requirements, as well as the published VGRS Rules relating to the subject of the request. Special services may concern these areas, in which VGRS has at its disposal suitably qualified personnel and the technical base. (See also 4.7 and 4.8).

In result of the performed services, VGRS issues the pertinent documents, appropriate to the subject of the request and the contract requirements.

### **1.4.4 Quality Assurance Services**

Quality assurance services consist in conducting work which results in the issue of the following VGRS documents: "Certificate of Safety Management System". (See also 4.9).

## **1.5 VGRS – Customer Cooperation**

**1.5.1** VGRS services are undertaken at the written request or contract. The request may be forwarded to the relevant VGRS Branch Office or the VGRS Head Office.

The survey request is to contain the following data:

- the name of the ship, builder or manufacturer and the place of building or manufacture,
- the name of the customer,
- technical characteristics of the object to be surveyed,
- the name of the Rules or/and a set of other technical requirements relating to the surveyed object,
- the name of documents to be issued as a result of survey,
- undertaking of payment for survey.

The request is to also specify the date and procedure for submitting technical documentation to be considered, as well as the date of the commencement of building or manufacture.

**1.5.2** The conclusion of contract or request for survey obligates design offices, shipyards, manufacturers, Owners of floating objects and other interested parties to apply and observe current VGRS Rules and the additional VGRS requirements to the extent relative to each party concerned, as well as to carry out recommendations, issued by VGRS, during survey.

**1.5.3** Introducing by Owners, shipyards or manufacturers any changes relating to materials or construction of floating objects and products covered by the Rules requirements is to be agreed with VGRS prior to execution.

**1.5.4** Owners, shipyards, manufacturers and other enterprises may apply, in all matters concerning survey or arising from the activities of VGRS Surveyors, to the appropriate VGRS organizational units and through them to the VGRS Head Office. Direct contact with the VGRS Head Office is not precluded. The decision of the Head Office is final.

**1.5.5** VGRS may refuse to conduct survey activities, should the Owner, shipyard or manufacturer regularly violate the Rules or survey contract signed with VGRS.

**1.5.6** Technical documentation and other information submitted to VGRS for consideration in connection with the Society's services, as well as the related documents and reports issued by VGRS, will not be made available to third parties without the written permission of the customer or owner of the documentation. The exception to the above principle is permissible by legal force only.

**1.6 VGRS – Class Notation**

Refer to

PR-101 Rules regulations PART\_1\_CLASSIFICATION REGULATIONS - 3 CLASS OF A SHIP



## 2 RULES

### 2.1 Structure and Publishing of the Rules

2.1.1 VGRS develops and issues separate classification Rules for the following floating units:

- sea-going ships,
- sea-going ships below 60m in length.

All of the above-mentioned Rules contain separate Parts relating to:

- classification regulations,
- hull and its equipment,
- machinery and machinery installations,
- electrical equipment.

2.1.2 The Rules technical requirements are formulated on the understanding that every floating unit concerned, including its machinery and equipment will be operated in accordance with the principles of good seamanship and will be maintained in proper technical condition. This applies, in particular, to the securing of cargo, distribution of stores and ballast, as well as the principles of navigation in heavy weather conditions.

2.1.3 The technical requirements, contained in the Rules, constitute the minimum requirements and reflect the accepted standard of safety.

VGRS makes every effort to ensure that technical requirements, set forth in the Rules, are formulated with due regard paid to the state-of-the-art technology.

Newly developed and updated Rules, as well as the Rules amendments are, in each case, presented for review to the VGRS Technical Committee.

2.1.4 Classification Rules take into account the provisions of international conventions related to the ship's structure and equipment, to the extent required for the assignment of class.

2.1.5 The Rules are updated through the issue of amendments thereto and publication of new editions.

2.1.6 VGRS Rules and Publications are issued in the English language.

### 2.2 Interpretation and Application of the Rules

2.2.1 Interpretation of the Rules rests solely with VGRS.

2.2.2 Unless expressly provided otherwise, new editions of the Rules and the Rules amendments enter into force six months after the date of their publication. Until that date, the application of new Rules and amendments is recommended.

2.2.3 Documentation of floating units, products and materials, submitted to VGRS for consideration, is to comply with current VGRS Rules and amendments thereto.

2.2.4 To floating units under construction, as well as manufactured products and materials, the Rules which were in force on the date of documentation approval, apply.

2.2.5 This does not concern the Rules requirements which ensue from international conventions or national regulations, which are to be complied with not later than on the date specified in the relevant conventions or determined by the Government of the State whose flag the ship is flying.

2.2.6 To floating units in service, the Rules, under which the units and containers were built, apply, unless expressly provided otherwise in the subsequent editions of the Rules or amendments thereto.

2.2.7 A major alteration and/or reconstruction of a floating unit in service are to be performed according to the requirements of the current Rules. In such case, technical documentation of the floating unit reconstruction or alteration is to be submitted to VGRS for consideration.

A major alteration is any change that substantially alters:

- the main dimensions of a floating unit,
- elements of the structure and equipment that affect the type and/or designation of a floating unit,
- passenger – carrying capacity of a floating unit.

Reconstruction is any change that substantially increases a ship's service life.

**2.3 Departures from the Rules**

**2.3.1** The application of structural solutions or materials other than those provided by the Rules will be, at the designer's request, considered in each case, by VGRS, as regards equivalence of the solutions/materials with the requirements specified by the Rules.

**2.3.2** In justifiable cases, VGRS may, at the request of the designer, Owner or manufacturer, depart from the requirements of the Rules if, in result of the departure, the safety standard of the floating unit, material or product is not impaired.

**2.3.3** As regards international conventions and national regulations, departures from the requirements may only be allowed in cases and the procedure specified in the given convention or regulations.

**2.3.4** Should the structure of a floating unit or its particular machinery and equipment or the applied materials be considered to be insufficiently verified during service, VGRS may require that special tests should be conducted during construction and the frequency or scope of classification surveys may be increased.

**2.3.5** If deemed necessary by VGRS, the appropriate operational restriction notes may be entered in the issued documents.

**2.3.6** Floating units which contain novel features of design with respect to buoyancy, hull structure, the structure and type of propulsion and equipment may, upon VGRS agreement, be classed on the basis of current Rules insofar as those can be applicable to the safety assessment of the novel features based on the best information available at that time.

**2.4 Standards**

Standards for materials, products and manufacturing processes applied in shipbuilding, which constitute the subject of the VGRS Rules, may be granted, after verification of compliance with the Rules requirements, the clause of conformity with VGRS Rules. (See 3.1.2).



### **3 TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATIONS**

#### **3.1 Scope of Technical Documentation**

**3.1.1** Prior to the commencement of construction of a floating unit, as well as the manufacture of product or material to be surveyed by VGRS, technical documentation, as defined in the appropriate Rules, is to be submitted to VGRS for consideration. Technical documentation is to be submitted in triplicate, but only 2 copies are necessary for workshop documentation.

**3.1.2** Standards for products or materials, containing the clause of conformity with the Rules, may form part or the whole of technical documentation which constitutes the basis of VGRS survey.

**3.1.3** Technical documentation, submitted to VGRS for consideration, is to be so prepared and contain such data that will enable verification as to conformity of the subject of the documentation with the requirements of the Rules. VGRS may require that the scope of documentation be increased, should this be necessary for the proper assessment of conformity with the Rules.

**3.1.4** The scope of technical documentation of floating units and products of special or innovatory design, submitted to VGRS for consideration, is to be agreed with VGRS in each particular case.

**3.1.5** The documentation presented to VGRS is to contain all data necessary to carry out calculations according to the Rules or calculations containing such data. If calculations are submitted, it is required that they should be carried out according to the Rules requirements or by methods agreed with VGRS.

#### **3.2 Approval of Technical Documentation**

**3.2.1** Technical documentation, as defined in the relevant Rules, is approved by the VGRS Head Office after consideration for compliance with the appropriate Rules and requirements.

**3.2.2** Workshop documentation, as defined in the relevant Rules, is agreed by the appropriate VGRS Branch Office for compliance with the Rules and the approved documentation.

**3.2.3** When taking up a series-production of products or materials, where the defining of essential features, on the basis of technical documentation, is impossible or unreliable, VGRS approves the documentation with a clause – for a prototype only. This obliges the manufacturer to test the prototype under VGRS survey, make the necessary modifications in the documentation and to resubmit the documentation to VGRS for approval. The documentation so prepared is approved by VGRS for a series-production.

**3.2.4** The approval or agreement of technical documentation is confirmed with signatures and the appropriate VGRS stamp. VGRS approval or agreement of documentation does not concern elements and structures that are shown on the documentation, but are not covered by the Rules.

**3.2.5** Changes introduced into the already approved or agreed, by VGRS, documentation, which relate to the elements and structures covered by the Rules requirements, are also subject to VGRS approval or agreement.

**3.2.6** VGRS approval of technical documentation is valid for a period of five years. After expiry of this term or if the interval between the approval of the documentation and the commencement of construction or manufacture exceeds three years, the documentation is to be updated, taking into consideration the current Rules and is to be resubmitted for approval. In well-grounded cases, VGRS may, at the designer's written request, extend the term of documentation approval validity.

## 4 SURVEYS

### 4.1 General Regulations

**4.1.1** The aim of VGRS surveys is to ensure compliance of the surveyed object with the relevant Rules requirements, as well as the approved and agreed technical documentation or the requirements specified in the survey request.

**4.1.2** The basic form of survey is a random inspection, with the exception of cases for which other procedure has been established. VGRS survey activities may include examinations, non-destructive tests, and laboratory tests, in-water surveys conducted by divers, operation tests, sea trials. The choice of the appropriate survey activities is solely that of VGRS according to the best of its knowledge and ability.

**4.1.3** When determining the forms of survey and the survey activities, VGRS takes into account the shipyards and manufacturer's quality system, confirmed by the relevant certificates. Where a certificate has been issued by an institution other than VGRS, the form of survey and the survey activities will be determined after forwarding, to VGRS, the Quality Manual and the associated procedures.

**4.1.4** VGRS survey, irrespective of its form, is not a substitute for the shipyards or manufacturer's Quality Control services and the Owner's technical services.

**4.1.5** The customer requesting survey is obliged to provide VGRS Surveyors with the necessary facilities to enable them proper and safe execution of survey activities. They are to be allowed, in particular, easy access to all places in which work, connected with the surveyed object, is carried out, irrespective of whether such places are under the customer's or its sub-contractors' control. Access, referred to above, is to be also provided for outside auditors if such necessity arises in connection with the VGRS quality system. The customer will be advised in this respect at a timely notice.

**4.1.6** As regards classification performed on the basis of agreements on mutual representation signed with other classification societies, VGRS carries out surveys on their behalf or delegates, to such societies, authorization to conduct surveys within the scope provided by these agreements.

### 4.2 Classification Survey of Floating Units, Boilers and Refrigerating Plants under Construction, Alteration and Reconstruction

**4.2.1** The survey is undertaken by VGRS at the written request and is conducted according to the Rules, appropriate for the given floating unit and the approved classification documentation.

**4.2.2** A detailed scope of surveys, examinations, measurements and tests, performed during survey, is determined by the relevant VGRS Branch Office, depending on the circumstances and current Rules and instructions.

The basic range of survey, performed by the VGRS Branch Office, covers:

- agreement of workshop documentation,
- checking the materials used,
- inspection of structure or its part, including the inspection of welding technology at the selected phases of structure assembling,
- inspection of the applied equipment, installations and mechanisms, including their assembling,
- strength and tightness tests,
- operation tests.

**4.2.2.1** On satisfactory completion of the survey, VGRS issues classification documents.

### 4.3 Classification Survey of Floating Units, Boilers and Refrigerating Plants in Service

**4.3.1** The survey is performed according to Part 1 "Classification Regulations" of the relevant classification Rules.

**4.3.2** When fitting additional elements or replacing the damaged parts of structure or equipment, covered by the Rules requirements, the new elements are to be manufactured under VGRS direct or indirect survey.

**4.3.3** Owners of floating units are obliged to:

- submit floating units to Periodical Surveys at the due date,
- suitably prepare a floating unit or refrigerating plant for survey,
- inform VGRS of each case of damage, grounding, damage to structure and equipment subject to VGRS survey,
- carry out recommendations, issued by VGRS, in due time.

Should it be necessary to change the date of Periodical survey, the provisions set forth in Part 1 “Classification Regulations” of the relevant Rules are to be followed.

**4.3.4** On satisfactory completion of survey of a floating unit or a classed refrigerating plant, the relevant classification documents are issued or confirmed by VGRS.

**4.4 Statutory Survey**

**4.4.1** VGRS issues, periodically, information as to authorizations granted, by State Administrations, to conduct statutory surveys, as well as information on the subject of such authorizations.

**4.4.2** In result of the performed surveys, VGRS issues the relevant statutory documents, provided by granted authorizations.

**4.5 Survey of the Manufacture of Materials and Products**

**4.5.1 General Regulations**

– Lists of materials and products subject to VGRS survey are given in the respective Parts of the relevant Rules.

Materials and products covered by VGRS Rules, certified by an IACS member classification society may be accepted by VGRS, without further survey and certification.

– Product or material, covered by the requirements of the Rules, is to be supplied by the manufacturer with VGRS certificate or a document stating that the product or material holds Type Approval Certificate. Furthermore, materials are to be supplied by manufacturers recognized by VGRS. The procedure and conditions of manufacturers’ recognition and the acceptance tests are given in Part 9 “Materials and Welding” of VGRS Rules.

– Materials and products, covered by the Rules requirements, are to be manufactured under VGRS direct or indirect survey, irrespective of whether or not the material or product manufacturers are holders of “Recognition Certificate”. The basis of survey are the approved technical documentation and possible additional requirements.

– Materials and products, covered by the Rules requirements, are to be subjected to the required tests and inspections at the manufacturers’ or other places accepted by VGRS and should receive VGRS Certificates and VGRS acceptance markings.

**4.5.2 Direct Survey**

– Direct survey is a technical survey carried out directly by VGRS Surveyors. The range of examinations, measurements and tests, performed during survey, is determined by the relevant VGRS Branch Office on the basis of current Rules and instructions, depending on the surveyed object, the conditions of manufacture and survey.

– In result of the performed survey and satisfactory tests of materials or products, VGRS issues documents, specified in 5.5.1 or confirms certificates issued by the manufacturer.

**4.5.3 Indirect Survey**

– Indirect survey is a technical survey during which inspections and the issue of documents are carried out by the manufacturer’s technical services.

– VGRS may apply indirect survey to a series-production of materials and products covered by the Rules requirements.

**4.5.4** The condition for the manufacture of material or product under indirect survey is ensuring, by the manufacturer, a good and uniform standard of quality of series- production and obtaining VGRS Type Approval Certificate.

**4.5.5** Type Approval Certificate is issued as a result of the following acceptance procedure:

- the approval of technical documentation of product type,
  - satisfactory results of type tests carried out according to the test programme agreed with VGRS S and under VGRS survey; in special cases, VGRS may require that service tests should be carried out,
  - favourable appraisal of the methods of manufacture and quality control system given by VGRS Surveyor following the inspection at the manufacturer's works,
  - the approval of technical documentation for a series-production if essential changes were introduced following type tests.
- Where indirect survey has been applied to materials and products previously subject to direct survey or if the manufacturer is the holder of the "Quality System Certificate", the procedure, referred to above, may be simplified.

Type Approval Certificate is valid for a period of up to five years, without the possibility of its extension. During the Certificate validity, VGRS reserves for itself the right to conduct periodical and occasional inspections at manufacturers of materials and products to which Type Approval Certificate has been issued.

– Type Approval Certificate will cease to be valid in the following cases:

- unsatisfactory service results,
- changes in the structure of products or materials without VGRS consent,
- changes in the Rules,
- change of the manufacturer's name without notifying VGRS.

VGRS publishes, periodically, lists of Type Approval Certificates granted for materials and products.

Documents for materials and products, manufactured under indirect survey, are issued in accordance with 5.5.3.

## **4.6 Recognition of Testing Stations, Laboratories, Repair and Maintenance Workshops, as well as Workshops Engaged in Special Manufacturing Processes (e.g. Welding)**

**4.6.1** VGRS may recognize independent or the manufacturers' or research centres' laboratories, testing stations as authorized to conduct tests and examinations for the purpose of VGRS survey. VGRS may recognize various types of maintenance and repair workshops as competent for the purpose of VGRS survey. VGRS may recognize workshops as competent to apply special manufacturing processes.

**4.6.2** The basic conditions for recognizing the above organizations are:

- suitably qualified personnel,
- necessary instruments, machines and appliances for conducting tests and examinations, provided with valid legalization or control certificates,
- the application of proper processes in the repair, maintenance or manufacture (this applies to workshops).

**4.6.3** The principles of cooperation with VGRS and acceptance of documents issued by recognized organizations, referred to above, are defined separately and are stated in VGRS Recognition Certificate.

**4.6.4** Recognition Certificates are issued with validity of up to five years. During the Certificate validity, VGRS reserves for itself the right to conduct periodical and occasional inspections of the recognized organizations, suspend or withdraw the Certificate granted if major infringements of the Rules have been observed.

**4.6.5** VGRS may accept Recognition Certificates of organizations, issued by an IACS member classification society.

## **4.7 Marine Special Survey**

### **4.7.1**

VGRS conducts technical survey of floating units which are not covered by the Rules requirements. Such survey is performed on the basis of a special request or contract signed with the Owner or shipyard (manufacturer) which, in addition to information mentioned in 1.5.1, is to contain:

- information on technical requirements imposed on the floating unit (including the possibility of applying the relevant VGRS Rules or parts thereof),
- the authority of the customer, designer and the Owner of the floating unit, insofar as applicable to the survey,



– the procedure for submitting, to VGRS, technical documentation, which constitutes the basis of survey, including the procedure for making possible modifications.

Where deemed necessary for the reason of safety, VGRS may require that modifications should be made in both the documentation and the floating unit.

In result of the performed survey, VGRS issues a document agreed with the customer.

**4.7.2** At the Owner's request, VGRS may conduct special survey, on behalf of the Owner, of a floating unit under construction, alteration, reconstruction or repair, within the scope specified in the request.

## **4.8 Non-marine Special Survey**

**4.8.1** Non-marine special survey, provided by VGRS, may cover:

- all welded steel structures and installations,
- electrical and power appliances,
- materials,
- other products, depending on VGRS capabilities.

**4.8.2** Non-marine survey may be of the complex nature or may refer to part or parts of plant or systems. Such survey may be carried out on the basis of authorization delegated by the appropriate National Authorities and at the request of the contractor or customer.

**4.8.3** Survey request or contract, in addition to information mentioned in 1.5.1, is to contain:

- technical requirements imposed on the object to be surveyed (including the possibility of applying the relevant VGRS Rules),
- the principles of survey cooperation (responsibility and authority) between contractor, designer and customer,
- the procedure for submitting, to VGRS, technical documentation, which constitutes the basis for survey, including modifications procedure,
- information on documents to be issued by VGRS in result of survey.

**4.8.4** Technical documentation, which constitutes the basis for survey, is to be verified by VGRS as far as its completeness, at least, is concerned. Where deemed necessary for the reason of safety, VGRS may recommend that modifications should be made in both the documentation and the surveyed object.

## **4.9 Quality Systems Certification**

### **4.9.1**

Basing on “International Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention”, adopted by IMO Assembly as resolution A.741 (18), referred to in a new Chapter IX of SOLAS 1974, as amended, VGRS may, at the request of the interested companies, perform certification and issue, upon its satisfactory completion, the suitable certificate confirming the operation of the safety management system within the company. The certification service applies to the Owner's organizations, as well as to ships which they operate and is effected in accordance with the pertinent procedures, developed by VGRS.

## **5 DOCUMENTS**

### **5.1 General Regulations**

**5.1.1** In result of the performed survey, VGRS issues the relevant documents.

**5.1.2** VGRS documents are issued on the basis of the assessment of the surveyed object technical condition.

**5.1.3** VGRS may, for its own survey needs, accept, wholly or in part, the documents issued by other classification societies.

### **5.2 Classification Documents**

**5.2.1** The documents confirming compliance of the classification and construction Rules for floating units or refrigerating plants are:

- Certificate of Class,
- Machinery Class Certificate,
- Class Certificate for Refrigerating Plant and Class Certificate for Boiler.

**5.2.2** Interim Certificate of Class and Interim Class Certificate for Refrigerating Plant are provisional documents issued by VGRS Branch Office upon completion of the initial survey for the assignment of class or after the Class Renewal Survey.

**5.2.3** Interim Machinery Class Certificate is provisional document issued by VGRS Branch Office upon completion of the initial survey for the assignment of class or in the case of such modifications made in machinery installations that would necessitate changes in the entries of Machinery Class Certificate.

**5.2.4** The documents, mentioned in 5.2.2 and 5.2.3, are valid until the issue of the relevant Certificates, but for a period not exceeding five months from the date of issue.

**5.2.5** Certificate of Class, Machinery Class Certificate and Class Certificate for Refrigerating Plant are issued by the VGRS Head office in proof of the assignment of class to a floating unit or refrigerating plant, after a thorough consideration of the request for class assignment made by VGRS Branch Office performing the given survey.

**5.2.6** To a non-classed floating unit or an unit, the class of which does not entitle it to navigate in a particular navigational area, VGRS can issue Seaworthiness Certificate for a single voyage. Such certificate is issued for a given route, within specified technical and service conditions, following the assessment of the floating unit technical state and conditions of the contemplated voyage, upon the performed survey and tests, as specified by VGRS.

**5.2.7** Documents issued to a floating unit classed by VGRS are to be, as a rule, kept on board.

### **5.3 Statutory Documents**

**5.3.1** Statutory documents issued, by VGRS, to floating units under the authority of Government (see 1.4.2 and 4.4) may, depending on the scope of authorization, be:

- final statutory documents (certificate or other form of documents), which a floating unit should have to operate legally, or
- provisional statutory documents, which constitute partial or full technical basis for the issue of the final documents.

The form of statutory documents, conditions of their issue and loss of validity are specified by the appropriate international conventions, national regulations and VGRS Rules for the convention equipment.

### **5.4 Special Survey Documents**

#### **5.4.1**

In result of survey conducted on a floating unit under construction, not covered by the VGRS Rules, a document, specified in the contract–request for special survey, is issued.

The document, referred to above, is to contain at least the following data on the surveyed object:

- identification data,
- statement concerning the floating unit technical condition,
- service area,
- document validity.

**5.4.2** In result of the conducted and/or completed non–marine survey, VGRS issues documents specified in the contract–request for survey.

**5.5 Documents from Survey of Materials and Products Manufacture**

**5.5.1** In result of direct survey of the manufacture of materials and products, VGRS issues certificates or tests and examinations certificates.

**5.5.2** Certificates, confirmed by VGRS, issued by material manufacturers, as well as documents issued by, recognized by VGRS, testing stations or laboratories for the performed tests are equivalent to certificates or tests and examinations certificates issued by VGRS.

**5.5.3** For materials and products manufactured under indirect survey, manufacturer, the holder of VGRS Type Approval Certificate, granted according to the procedure specified in 4.5.3, issues its own documents, in which reference is made to Type Approval Certificate No. Such document is equivalent to a certificate or tests and examinations certificate issued by VGRS.

