

## Procedure for Change of Flag to German Flag

### 1. General

1.1. The purpose of this Procedural Requirement is to lay down common procedures and minimum statutory survey requirements for Classification Societies in case of Change of Flag to the German Flag.

1.2. However, this Procedural Requirement does not prevent the Classification Societies from expanding the scope of statutory surveys at their own discretion or upon specific instructions of the German Administration.

1.3 Surveys carried out for Change of Flag at a date which is outside of appropriate time windows for the periodical surveys of the corresponding certificate issued by, or on behalf of, the losing flag Administration are to be understood as additional surveys which are carried out solely for the purpose of Change of Flag. These surveys do not replace the surveys required to be carried out within the appropriate time windows.

### 2. Application

2.1. Survey procedures are in accordance with the applicable international Conventions and mandatory Codes.

2.2. This document does not specifically deal with audit/verification and/or certification procedures in accordance with the ISM Code.

2.3. For ships under Germany flag the 1988 Protocol the 'Revised Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification' / IMO Resolution A.948(23), as amended, are to be observed.

### 3. Scope of Surveys

3.1 In addition to the surveys indicated in 3.2, it will be insured that the German flag, port of registry and ship's name are indicated, as applicable, on statutory documents (Stability booklet, SOPEP, etc.) and life boats, life rafts, life buoys, etc..

3.2 If the Change of Flag is to be undertaken outside the windows of the **due dates** for surveys of new certificates which are going to be issued on behalf of the German Administration, then the scope of surveys for the main statutory certificates are to be:

3.2.1	SOLAS Safety Construction	Annual Survey
3.2.2	SOLAS Safety Radio	Renewal Survey/Periodical Survey
3.2.3	SOLAS Safety Equipment	Annual Survey
3.2.4	SOLAS Passenger Ship Safety Cert.	3.2.3 + Lifesaving and Fire-fighting means and 3.2.2
3.2.5	Load Line	Annual Survey
3.2.6	MARPOL Annex I	Annual Survey
3.2.7	MARPOL Annex IV	Renewal Survey
3.2.8	MARPOL Annex VI	Annual Survey
3.2.9	Fitness Cert. Gas/Chemicals/NLS	Annual Survey

**Note:** Specific requirements of the Flag State Administration related to the above statutory certificates are also to be considered (e.g. Form "NAT\_REQU\_DEU").

3.3 For other statutory certificates not listed above the scope of survey is to be at least the scope of the relevant annual survey.

3.4 If **due dates** for surveys of new certificates, which are going to be issued by, or on behalf of, the gaining Flag Administration, are **within the applicable time windows** for surveys, then the appropriate renewal/intermediate/periodical/annual surveys shall be carried out. Due consideration to the circumstances shall be given in order to avoid unreasonable burdens as could be inter alia a necessary dry-docking of the ship for renewal survey of the SOLAS Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate or similar.

3.5 Surveys conducted within a three months' time period prior to the date of Change of Flag may be credited towards Change of Flag with the exception of SOLAS Safety Radio survey.

3.6 If the Classification Society was not authorized by the previous flag State Administration for survey and/or certification or if the losing flag State Administration was not a Party to the relevant Convention, then appropriate initial/renewal surveys are to be carried out for SOLAS Safety Radio, Safety Equipment, Passenger Ship Safety Certificate, Load Line, MARPOL Annex I, MARPOL Annex IV, MARPOL Annex VI, Fitness Cert. Gas/Chemicals/NLS.