

Merchant Marine Circular

Panama Maritime Authority
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Control and Compliance Department

MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-143

To: Ship-owners/Operators, Recognized Organizations

Subject: Condition Assessment Scheme (CAS)

Reference: Resolution No. 106-OMI-38-DGMM of December 26, 2007, which adopted Resolution MEPC.94 (46) of April 27, 2001, Resolution MEPC.99 (48) of October 11, 2002 and Resolution MEPC.112 (50) of December 4, 2003.

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The Panama Maritime Authority (PMA) desires to assure that the Condition Assessment Scheme (CAS), adopted by Resolution [MEPC.94\(46\)](#), as amended and consolidated, is properly conducted by providing guidance and instructions to Recognized Organizations and Shipowners.

2. APPLICABILITY

- 2.1. The requirements of the CAS apply to:
- 2.1.1. 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);
 - 2.1.2. 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; and
 - 2.1.3. oil tankers of 5,000 tons deadweight and above and of 15 years and over after date of delivery of the ship, carrying crude oil having a density at 15oC higher than 900 kg/ m³ but lower than 945 kg/m³, in accordance with regulation 13H(6)(a).
 - 2.1.4. oil tankers of 5000 tons deadweight and above, carrying heavy grade oil as cargo fitted with only double bottoms or double sides not used for the carriage of oil and extending to the entire cargo tank length or double hull spaces which are not used for carriage of oil and extend to the entire cargo tank length, but



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does not full fill conditions for being exempted from the provision of paragraph (1)(b), of regulation 13 H.

3. Applicability for oil Tanker Operating in Panamanian Territorial Waters:

- 3.1. Oil Tankers of 150 Gross tons and above and of 15 years and over after date of delivery of the ship, carrying crude oil having a density at 15° C higher that 900 Kg/m³, that are engaged in voyages exclusively within the territorial waters of Panama must comply with a CAS.
- 3.2. The CAS survey report or any section of Res. MEPC.94(46), as amended, will determine if some specific aspect of the CAS can be exempted.

4. Timing

- 4.1. The CAS survey shall be aligned to the Enhanced Programme of Inspection;
- 4.2. The first CAS survey in accordance with regulation 13G(6) shall be carried out concurrent with the first schedule intermediate or renewal survey after 5 April 2005, or after the date when the ship reaches the 15 years of age, whichever occurs later;
- 4.3. 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 delivery of the ship in 2010;
- 4.4. The first CAS survey in accordance with regulation 13H(5)13H(6)(a)13H(7) shall be carried out concurrent with the first schedule intermediate or renewal survey after 5 de April 2005;
- 4.5. In the case where the Statement of Compliance issued following the first CAS survey under point 2 valid beyond the anniversary of the date of delivery of the ship in 2010, that CAS may be treated as first CAS carried out in compliance with regulation 13G(7);
- 4.6. 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;
- 4.7. Notwithstanding the above, the Company may, with the agreement of the Administration, opt to carry out the CAS survey at a date earlier than the due date of survey referred to above, provided that all the requirements of the CAS are complied with;
- 4.8. The Recognized Organization issuing the International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate shall be the same carrying the CAS.

5. Background

- 5.1. The Condition Assessment Scheme was adopted by Res. MEPC.94(46), as amended by Res. MEPC. 99(48) and MEPC.112(50).

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- 5.2. PMA representation is essential in this process. It is PMA that ultimately issues and grant the validity of the required Statement of Compliance, allowing a single hull oil tanker to operate beyond its phase-out date, based on the results of the CAS and the work performed by a RO. The RO's Final Report, however, will contain a recommendation to PMA as to whether the ship should be allowed to continue operating until the date prescribed in regulation 13G for compliance with the requirements of regulation 13F or for the period of validity of the CAS, if earlier.

6. Monitoring the CAS Work of the RO

- 6.1. PMA has established procedures for the purpose of ensuring uniform and consistent implementation of the CAS, even though a Recognized Organization authorized by PMA to carry out statutory survey and certification on its behalf is involved in the CAS survey.
- 6.2. For the monitoring of the uniform implementation and consistence of the CAS by RO's, PMA may nominate/approve an independent representation. This will include, but not limited to:
- 6.2.1. Monitor the CAS work the RO is carrying out on behalf;
 - 6.2.2. Reviewing and commenting on the RO's CAS Final Report; and
 - 6.2.3. Reviewing cases of ships, which have been submitted for CAS re- assessment.
 - 6.2.4. The issuance of the Document of compliance.
- 6.3. PMA will record and document the findings and conclusions of the review and the decision to accept or reject a RO's CAS Final Report, producing a Review Record for PMA.
- 6.4. Any persons assigned to monitor the execution of the CAS or to review an RO's CAS Final Report shall be:
- 6.4.1. Adequately qualified and experienced;
 - 6.4.2. Under the direct control of the Administration; and
 - 6.4.3. Have no connection whatsoever with the RO of a ship who carries out the CAS survey under review.
- 6.5. Considering the volume and scope of work involved, PMA can identify a need for additional expert resources to assist in the monitoring of CAS work and in reviewing and making recommendations on the CAS Final Report.



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- 6.6.** The monitoring of PMA as described in MEPC.94(46) as amended, will include, but not be limited to:
- 6.6.1.** Participation in Survey Plan development as deemed necessary;
 - 6.6.2.** Review of the Survey Plan to confirm compliance with section 6.2* on Survey Plan documentation;
 - 6.6.3.** Examination of documentation on board;
 - 6.6.4.** Examination of the verification review of the CAS survey report carried out by the RO Headquarters.
 - 6.6.5.** The full thickness measurement report.
 - 6.6.6.** Photographs.
- 6.7.** The RO and shipowner shall ensure that the CAS Survey Requirements are met, including:
- 6.7.1.** Holding pre-CAS survey meetings;
 - 6.7.2.** Appropriate use of surveyors;
 - 6.7.3.** Use of qualified surveyors who have completed the required training, duly experienced in structural inspections and as per section 7.1.3*;
 - 6.7.4.** Monitoring of surveyors by the RO as per section 7.1.3*;
 - 6.7.5.** Suitable controls when the survey is split between survey stations;
 - 6.7.6.** Clear identification of items to be repaired;
 - 6.7.7.** Appropriate consultation by surveyors with the RO Headquarters with respect to deferred hull repair items;
 - 6.7.8.** Completion of the survey only when all appropriate recommendations and conditions have been rectified;
 - 6.7.9.** Completion of an overall survey of all appropriate spaces;
 - 6.7.10.** Completion of a close-up survey in accordance with sections 7.2.2*, 7.2.3 and 7.2.4;
 - 6.7.11.** The taking and recording of thickness measurements in accordance with section 7.3*; and,
 - 6.7.12.** The thickness measurements company must hold a certificate of approval of the Recognized Organizations carrying out the CAS survey.

7. Instructions

- 7.1.** Owners / Operators are required to advise PMA and the RO of the intention to undertake CAS at least eight (8) months prior to commencing the CAS survey.

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- 7.2. Upon receiving such notification the RO shall:
- 7.2.1. Submit to the company the Survey Planning Questionnaire not later than seven (7) months prior to begin the CAS survey; and,
 - 7.2.2. Advise the company whether or not any changes to the maximum acceptable structural corrosion diminution levels are applicable to the ship.
- 7.3. Subsequently, five (5) months in advance of the intended CAS survey commencement, the Owner / Operators shall complete and return the Survey Planning Questionnaire to the RO. It is PMA policy that a copy of this Survey Planning Questionnaire must be submitted signed and stamped by owners and RO.
- 7.4. Two (2) months in advance of the intended CAS survey date, the Owner / Operator shall complete and submit a signed survey plan which has been agreed by the Owners/ Operator and the RO. A copy of the Model Survey Plan must be submitted to PMA signed and stamped by both parties. PMA will review at this stage the survey plan and will propose amendments if it is considered necessary.
- 7.5. The Model Survey Plan shall include as a minimum the requirements included in Resolution MEPC.94 (46) as amended, section 6.2.2.*
- 7.6. After the CAS survey has been completed by the authorized RO, in accordance with paragraph 10.2 of Resolution MEPC 94(46) as amended by Resolution MEPC 112(50), the RO will submit to PMA a CAS Final Report for review.
- 7.7. The exchange of communication for the intention to carry out the CAS and the Survey Planning Questionnaire must be sent in electronic format and addressed to:
- General Directorate of Merchant Marine.**
 - singlehullwaiver@segumar.com
 - cas@amp.gob.pa
 - Tel: +507 501-5350
- 7.8. Hard copy of a Survey Plan for CAS should be sent to:
- Panama Maritime Authority,**
 - General Directorate of Merchant Marine,
 - Ave. Omar Torrijos Herreras Albrook
 - Pan-Canal Plaza building 4th Floor Room 404
 - Republic of Panama.
- 7.9. The CAS Final Report shall be submitted to PMA in hard copy format including all documentation required in Resolution MEPC 94(46) and MEPC 99(48), including an electronic version.



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- 7.10.** PMA, if necessary, will set special instructions for the company and RO acting on its behalf.

8. Reviewing the CAS Final Report

- 8.1.** The review of the CAS Final Report submitted by the Headquarters of the RO shall be conducted in accordance with section 11.3 and shall ensure and verify that:
- 8.1.1.** The Final Report is submitted by the RO to PMA as required in section 10.2.2*;
 - 8.1.2.** The Final Report contains all the information required by section 10.2.3*;
 - 8.1.3.** The criteria required by sections 7.2* and 7.3 have been met; and
 - 8.1.4.** Acceptance criteria for the CAS have met Resolution A.744(18), as amended.
- 8.2.** The review shall recommend PMA the acceptance or rejection of the RO's CAS Final Report.
- 8.3.** The extent of the review shall be documented, and a Review Record shall be completed.
- 8.4.** surveyors involved during the CAS survey and surveyors in charge to carry out the thickness measurement, shall meet the requirements and qualification as indicated in section 7.1.3.*

9. Reviewing Cases of Ships Submitted for CAS Re-Assessment

- 9.1.** Where a CAS is submitted for re-assessment, PMA shall provide an appropriately qualified and experienced individual to review the corrective actions taken and any new information submitted by the RO. The review shall recommend to PMA the acceptance or rejection of the re-assessment. The extent of the review shall be documented and a new Review Record completed.

10. Persons Assigned to Monitoring the Execution of the CAS or to Review a CAS Final Report

- 10.1.** PMA shall provide individuals whose qualifications and experience are acceptable to the Administration for the task required. PMA shall provide qualified and experienced individual(s) to review the CAS Final Report submitted by the Headquarters of the RO.
- 10.2.** The individuals, will be considered under the direct supervision of PMA, on day-to-day liaison.
- 10.3.** PMA will ensure that any individual involved in the monitoring of the CAS or the review of a CAS Final Report is neither related nor affiliated to the RO which carried out the CAS survey under review.



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11. Validity of Statement of Compliance

- 11.1. When the results of the CAS Final Report are deemed acceptable PMA shall issue the Statement of Compliance with an expiration date of not more than five (5) years and six (6) months.
- 11.2. The owners/Operators or legal representative must submit copy of the official receipt of payment, prior to the revision of the CAS final Report and the issuance of the Statement of Compliance.

12. Issuance of Statement of Compliance

- 12.1. PMA may consider and declare that the Statement of Compliance of a ship remains valid and in full force and effect if:
 - 12.1.1. The ship is transferred to a RO other than the one that submitted the CAS Final Report which was reviewed and accepted for the issuance of the Statement of Compliance; or
 - 12.1.2. The ship is operated by a company other than the one operating the ship at the time of the completion of the CAS Survey

13. Vessel changing flag:

- 13.1. If a ship with a valid Statement of Compliance is transferred to the Registry of Panama, PMA may issue a new Statement of Compliance based on the Statement of Compliance issued by the previous registry, provided that PMA:
 - 13.1.1 Requests from the previous registry, in accordance with regulation 8(3), copies of the CAS documentation related to the ship which the previous registry has required for the issuance or renewal of the Statement of Compliance.
 - 13.1.2 Establishes that the RO which submitted the CAS Final Reports to the previous Registry is an RO authorized to act on its behalf;
 - 13.1.3 Reviews the documentations referred to subparagraph .1 and is satisfied that the requirements of the CAS are met;
- 13.2 The terms and condition of the validity of the new Statement of Compliance to will be issued in accordance to those established by the previous registry.

14 Suspensions/Withdrawals.

- 14.1. PMA may:



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

15. Acknowledgement

15.1. The RO and the Ship owner shall acknowledge to the PMA receipt of the authorization to proceed with the CAS and clear understanding of the instructions.

16. Renewal of the Statement of Compliance

16.1. No renewal of an Statement of Compliance will be granted without complying with a new complete CAS survey.

November, 2021 – *References were updated; paragraphs 7.7 and 7.8 were modified.*
February, 2006.

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Circular or any other request should be forward to:

SEGUMAR Panama
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority

Phone: (507) 501-5350

E-mail: singlehullwaiver@segumar.com / cas@amp.gob.pa

Website: <https://panamashipregistry.com/circulars/>