Joint Safety Statement on Safety of Surveyors

IACS
International Association of Classification Societies

Working together to improve Safety

This document is further supported by the IACS Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Policy.

A Guiding Principle

"We will work together with our clients (including shipbuilders, ship-owners, offshore platform operators, and engine / equipment and material manufacturers) to provide a safe place of work at all times."

Safety Objective 1 – Access to, from and within the work site will be safe

- Initial safety briefings shall be carried out by the site operator including emergency response procedures
- There shall be suitable safety procedures covering the identified hazards on site
- Suitable arrangements for hosting / supervision shall be established for the visit
- Adequate means of safe access to, from and within the work site shall be provided including appropriate lighting and ventilation where required
- Hazardous substances and materials (e.g. asbestos, flammable or toxic substances) shall be removed or clearly identified and made safe.

Safety Objective 2 – Working with equipment under test will be safe

- All equipment shall be controlled and operated by a competent person
- Hazardous parts of equipment shall be properly guarded or protected
- Equipment shall be protected from accidental start up (e.g. lock out, tag out, etc.)
- Safety devices shall be in working order and the equipment operated within its approved safety parameters.

Safety Objective 3 – It will be safe to enter and work in confined spaces

- All confined spaces proposed for entry shall be certified safe by a competent person and an entry permit issued by the person responsible for scheduling the work
- Information shall be made available about the previous contents of the space (including adjacent spaces as applicable)
- The confined space shall be ventilated at all times before and during entry
- The confined space shall be isolated from hazardous services / systems
- The atmosphere shall be monitored for safe conditions by a competent person at appropriate intervals
- Standby persons and emergency rescue arrangements shall be provided

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- No surveyor shall enter into a confined space unaccompanied except where the available space does not permit two people to enter.
- Safe access within the confined space shall be provided, including ladders, scaffolding, lighting, etc.

Safety Objective 4 – Working at height will be safe

- Adequate measures will be taken to protect individuals from falling when working at height
- The method of access shall be appropriate to the height, location, conditions, and tasks undertaken
- Scaffolding shall be designed and constructed by a competent person
- Scaffolding shall be regularly inspected and a tagging system shall be implemented to confirm the staging is fit for use
- Mobile elevated working platforms shall be serviced, maintained and operated by a competent person
- Portable ladders shall be designed based on a recognized National or International standard and shall be secured and in good condition
- Suitable attachment points shall be provided to secure fall protection equipment where required.

Safety Objective 5 – Transfers between vessels will be safe

- Safe transfer and emergency procedures shall be available on the transfer boat and agreed with the vessel/offshore unit prior to transfer activity
- The transfer boat shall be suitable for its purpose and have appropriate safety equipment, including life preservers, radio communications, flares, etc. on board and available for use
- A crewmember (in addition to the helmsmen) shall be available to assist with the transfer
- Boarding arrangements shall be in accordance with IMO requirements
- A heaving line (or similar) shall be provided to transfer the surveyor's equipment onboard

Safety Objective 6 – Pressurized systems and stored energy

- Pressure testing shall be carried out in accordance with an approved test procedure using calibrated gauges
- Machinery and electrical systems shall be de-energized and locked out as appropriate during internal inspections and surveys
- Suitable barriers shall be established creating safe areas during pressure testing activities and under lifting operations where "line of fire" hazards are present.

Safety Objective 7 – Sea trials conditions onboard will be safe

- Critical fire safety and lifesaving arrangements shall be onboard, tested and operational
- Lifesaving appliances shall be provided for all persons permitted to be onboard
- All essential or critical machinery and equipment for safe operation to be fitted, tested as necessary and operational

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- Vessel or unit is to be operated in accordance with approved stability instructions (may be preliminary approval in case of new construction)
- Emergency drills onboard shall be completed during the outset of the voyage.

Closing statement

"These basic safety requirements represent a minimum safety standard that we expect when working at third party sites. Where our surveyors determine the risk to their safety is too high, they have the responsibility and right to stop their work until it is safe to continue."

Table of references

IACS Document Reference	Title
Procedural Requirement No. 37	Procedural requirement for confined space entry
Recommendation No. 39	Safe use of rafts or boats for survey
Recommendation No. 72	Confined space safe practice
Recommendation No. 78	Safe use of portable ladders for close-up surveys
Recommendation No. 134	Boat transfers safe practice
Recommendation No. 136	Guidelines for working at height
Recommendation No. 140	Recommendation for safe precautions during survey and testing of pressurized systems
Recommendation No. 141	Guidelines for the assessment of safety aspects at workplace
Recommendation No. 184	Guidelines on safety standards for work

International Association of Classification Societies
4 Matthew Parker St, Westminster, London SW1H 9NP UK E: permsec@iacs.org.uk T: +44 (0)20 7976 0660 www.iacs.org.uk