



Office of  
Deputy Commissioner  
of Maritime Affairs

**THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**  
LIBERIA MARITIME AUTHORITY

**Marine Notice**

**POL-008**  
**Rev. 06/12**

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**TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF  
MERCHANT SHIPS, AND AUTHORIZED CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES**

**SUBJECT: MARPOL 73/78 Condition Assessment Scheme**

**Reference:** (a) **Maritime Regulation 2.37.**  
(b) **Annex I of MARPOL**  
(c) **Resolution MEPC.94 (46), as amended by MEPC.99 (48) and  
MEPC.112(50)**  
(d) **MEPC.155(55)**

**Supersedes: Marine Notice POL-008, dated 02/05**

**PURPOSE:**

This Notice provides the Administrations guidelines and procedures for implementation of the Condition Assessment Scheme for Category 2 and Category 3 single hull oil tankers in accordance with the requirements of MARPOL73/78, as amended. The purpose of the Condition Assessment Scheme is to provide an international standard to meet the requirements of regulations 20.6 and 20.7 of Annex I of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended by resolution MEPC.94(46), MEPC.99(48) and MEPC.112(50).

The requirements of the CAS include enhanced and transparent verification of the reported structural condition and of the ship and verification that the documentary and survey procedures have been properly carried out and completed.

The Scheme requires that compliance with the CAS is assessed during the Enhanced Survey Program of Inspections concurrent with intermediate or renewal surveys currently required by resolution A.744(18), as amended.

**APPLICABILITY:**

The requirements of the CAS apply to:

1. Oil tankers of 5,000 tons deadweight and above, 15 years or over after the date of delivery of the ship, in accordance with regulation 20.6;
2. Oil tankers subject to the provisions of regulation 20.7, where authorization is requested

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Inquiries concerning the subject of this Notice should be directed to the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Republic of Liberia, the Liberian International Ship & Corporate Registry, LLC, 8619 Westwood Center Dr., Suite 300, Vienna, VA 22182, USA

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for continued service beyond the anniversary of the date of delivery of the ship in 2010;  
and

3. Oil tankers of 5,000 tons deadweight and above, 15 years or over after the date of delivery of the ship, carrying crude oil having a density at 15°C higher than 900 kg/m<sup>3</sup> but lower than 945 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, in accordance with regulation 21.6.1.
4. Category 2 and 3 tankers delivered before 5 April 1977 are not eligible for CAS and must be phased out of service no later than 5 April 2005. Category 2 and 3 tankers delivered after 5 April 1977 but before 1 January 1978 are also not eligible for CAS and must be phased out of service in 2005 no later than the anniversary date of the year of delivery.
5. Category 1 tankers are not eligible for CAS. Category 1 tankers delivered before 5 April 1982 must be phased out of service no later than 5 April 2005. Category 1 tankers built after 5 April 1982 must be phased out of service in 2005 no later than the anniversary date of the year of delivery.

## **REQUIREMENTS:**

### **1.0 Definitions:**

- 1.1 **Category 1 oil tanker** means an oil tanker of 20,000 tons deadweight and above carrying crude oil, fuel oil, heavy diesel oil or lubricating oil as cargo, and of 30,000 tons deadweight and above carrying oil other than the above, which does not comply with the requirements for new oil tankers as defined in regulation 1(26) of Annex I of MARPOL 73/78.
- 1.2 **Category 2 oil tanker** means an oil tanker of 20,000 tons deadweight and above carrying crude oil, fuel oil, heavy diesel oil or lubricating oil as cargo, and of 30,000 tons deadweight and above carrying oil other than the above, which complies with the requirements for new oil tankers as defined in regulation 1(26) of Annex I of MARPOL 73/78.
- 1.3 **Category 3 oil tanker** means an oil tanker of greater than 5000 tons deadweight and less than 20,000 tons deadweight carrying crude oil, fuel oil, heavy diesel oil or lubricating oil as cargo or an oil tanker less than 30,000 tons deadweight carrying other types of oil.
- 1.4 **Recognized Organization (RO)** means an organization recognized by the Administration to perform the surveys in accordance with the provisions of regulation 4(3) of Annex I of MARPOL 73/78.\*

### **2.0 Timing:**

- 2.1 **Initial survey:** For Category 2 and 3 tankers, the first CAS survey in accordance with regulation 20.6 shall be carried out concurrent with the first scheduled intermediate or renewal survey after 5 April 2005, or the first scheduled intermediate or renewal survey after the date when the ship reaches the 15 years of age, whichever occurs later.
- 2.2 **Subsequent surveys:** Any subsequent CAS surveys, required for the renewal of the Statement

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\* Under Regulation XI/1 of SOLAS 74, as amended, resolutions A.739(18) and A.789(19) are applicable to Recognized Organizations.

of Compliance shall be carried out concurrently with the intermediate or renewal survey which has to be completed by the date of expiry of the Statement of Compliance.

- 2.3 **Early Implementation:** Notwithstanding the above, the Company may, with the agreement of the Administration, opt to carry out the CAS survey at a time earlier than the survey due date referred to above, provided that the vessel survey complies with all the requirements of the CAS.

### 3.0 CAS Preparation and Survey Requirements

- 3.1 **Scope of the CAS:** The CAS shall apply to surveys of the hull structure in way of cargo tanks, pump rooms, cofferdams, pipe tunnels, void spaces within the cargo area and all ballast tanks.

- 3.2 **Preparations for the CAS survey - General procedures:** Ship owners desiring to commence CAS for an oil tanker shall follow the procedures listed below. It should be noted that early and detailed planning to identify areas of potential risk is a prerequisite for the successful and timely completion of the CAS. A CAS Implementation Schedule is provided at the end of this Notice. The following sequence of events shall be observed.

1. The Company shall notify the Administration of its intention to proceed with the CAS not less than 8 months prior to the planned commencement of the CAS survey.
2. The Administration shall consider the notification and review the vessel's history, including its detention record, casualty history, non-conformity reports, and safety inspection reports. If the ship's history is satisfactory, the Administration will authorize the RO to commence the CAS process on that ship.
3. Upon receipt of the authorization the RO shall:
  - a. issue to the Company the Survey Planning Questionnaire, conforming to Appendix 2 of the CAS Procedures not later than 7 months prior to the planned commencement of the CAS survey; and
  - b. advise the Company whether there have been any changes to the maximum acceptable structural corrosion diminution levels applicable to the ship.
4. The Company shall complete and return the Survey Planning Questionnaire to the Administration and the RO not less than 5 months prior to the planned commencement of the CAS survey.
5. In cooperation with the RO, the Company shall complete the Survey Plan, conforming to Appendix 3 of MEPC.94 (46), as amended, not less than 2 months prior to the planned commencement of the CAS survey. The Administration shall be provided the documentation listed in section 6.2.1 of MEPC.94 (46), as amended, and shall be included in correspondence between the Company and the RO in the development of the Survey Plan. The Administration reserves the right to take an active part in the development of the survey plan. A copy of the completed and signed Survey Plan shall be forwarded by the Company to the Administration for review.
6. The Administration shall review the Survey Plan to confirm compliance with the CAS Survey Requirement. After the Survey Plan has been reviewed and accepted by the Administration,

the Survey may commence. Prior to the commencement of the CAS survey, the Company shall inform the Administration of the final arrangements, including a. CAS survey location, anticipated commencement date, estimated duration and date of pre-survey meeting required in section 7.1.1 of MEPC.94 (46), as amended. The RO shall inform the Administration of the arrangements agreed at the pre-survey meeting. As part of its oversight and monitoring functions, the Administration may decide to take part in the survey of the vessel as an observer. If the Administration decides to take part in the survey, it will provide the name of its nominated surveyor to the RO and the Company.

7. In special circumstances, such as re-activation from lay-up or unexpected events such as an extended stoppage period for hull or machinery damage, the Administration may, on a case by case basis, relax the time frame for commencement of CAS procedures.
8. Such relaxation shall, at all times, be subject to the RO having sufficient time to complete the CAS survey and for the Administration to review the CAS Final Report and issue the Statement of Compliance.

#### **4.0 CAS Final Report**

- 4.1 The RO shall prepare a CAS Final Report upon completion of the survey for submission to the Administration for review and acceptance as required by MEPC.94(46), as amended. The final survey report must include all of the information required by MEPC.94(46), as amended. The report shall indicate the date, location (place), and where relevant, whether or not the CAS survey was carried out in dry-dock afloat or at sea. When the CAS survey is split between different survey stations, a report shall be made for each portion of the CAS survey. The attending surveyors shall sign the CAS survey report. The survey records relating to the CAS survey, including actions taken, shall form an auditable documentary trail, which shall be made available to the Administration, if requested.
- 4.2 The RO Headquarters shall carry out a verification review of the CAS survey reports, documents, photographs and other records relating to the CAS, as specified in section 4.1 above, for the purpose of ascertaining and confirming that the requirements of the CAS have been met.
- 4.3 The RO reviewing personnel shall not have been engaged in any way whatsoever with the CAS survey under review.
- 4.4 The CAS Final Report shall be submitted by the RO to the Administration without delay and in any case not later than 2 months prior to the date the ship is required to be issued with a Statement of Compliance.

#### **5.0 Review of the Initial Report by the Administration**

- 5.1 The Administration shall review the final report to determine if the vessel and the survey have met the requirements of MEPC.94(46), as amended, and if the vessel is acceptable for issuance of a CAS Statement of Compliance. Acceptance criteria for the CAS shall be those set out in resolution A.744(18), as amended.

5.2 Upon completion of the review the Administration will either:

1. Issue the vessel a Statement of Compliance, or
2. If it is determined that the ship has failed to meet the requirements of CAS it may authorize a re-assessment of the ship, or
3. Reject the ship for inclusion in CAS.

5.3 In cases where a re-assessment is authorized, the grounds on the basis of which the Administration declined the issue of a Statement of Compliance to the ship shall be addressed and dealt with and the remedial actions shall, thereafter, be reviewed for the purpose of ascertaining whether the requirements of the CAS have been complied with. Such re-assessment, as a rule, shall be carried out by the RO who carried out the previous CAS.

5.4 The CAS re-assessment shall be carried out as soon as possible and in any case, subject to the phase out provisions of MEPC.94(46), not later than 6 months following the date on which the Administration has made the decision to decline the issue of a Statement of Compliance to the ship.

5.5 In cases where the vessel has been rejected for CAS, the grounds on the basis of which the Administration declined the issue of a Statement of Compliance shall be supplied to the Company and the RO.

## **6.0 Issuance of a Statement of Compliance**

6.1 When the results of the CAS Final Report are deemed acceptable to the Administration, the Office of the Maritime Administrator shall issue the requisite Statement of Compliance with an expiry date of not more than five (5) years and six (6) months from the date of completion of the CAS survey.

6.2 The RO, upon satisfactory completion of the survey, shall issue an Interim Statement of Compliance in a form corresponding the model given in appendix 1 of MEPC.94 (46), as amended, for a period not exceeding 5 months. It shall remain valid until its expiry date or the date of issue of a Statement of Compliance, whichever is the earlier date.

6.3 The Administration retains the right to suspend and/or withdraw the Statement of Compliance of a ship if it no longer complies with the requirements of the CAS; and withdraw the Statement of Compliance of a ship if it is no longer entitled to fly its flag.

## **7.0 Communication with International Maritime Organization**

7.1 The Administration shall make the appropriate report to IMO in accordance with MEPC.94 (46), as amended.

## **8.0 Reissuance of CAS Statement of Compliance during a Change of Flag**

8.1 As required by Resolution MEPC.155(55), Section 13.12, upon receipt by the Administration of the status report from the RO that provided the CAS Final Report to the previous Administration that, at the time of transfer, all the terms and conditions justifying the issuance of the Statement of Compliance to that ship are still valid and being maintained the Administration will authorized the RO to issue the vessel an interim CAS Statement of Compliance valid for

up to 90 days. The RO shall instruct the vessel owners to contact the Administration for issuance of the full term CAS Statement of Compliance. If the RO finds evidence that the ship is no longer eligible for a CAS SOC, the RO should contact the Administration immediately and request guidance.

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## CAS Schedule

For the sole purpose of aid to the Companies and Recognized Organizations in the preparation of the CAS Survey and shall be read and used for this purpose only

