

No.19 Procedural Requirement for Thickness Measurements

(Rev.0
July 2009)
(Rev.1
July 2017)

1. Thickness Measurements required in the context of hull structural classification surveys, if not carried out by the Society itself shall be witnessed by a surveyor. The attendance of the surveyor shall be recorded.
2. This requires the surveyor to be on board, while the gaugings are taken, to the extent necessary to control the process (see Footnote).

2.1 Survey meeting

Prior to commencement of the Intermediate or Special survey, as required by UR Z7, UR Z7.1, UR Z7.2, UR Z10s or UR Z15, a meeting is to be held between the attending surveyor(s), the master of the ship or mobile offshore unit or an appropriately qualified representative appointed by the master or Company, the owner's representative(s) in attendance and the thickness measurement firm's representative(s) so as to ensure the safe and efficient execution of the surveys and thickness measurements to be carried out onboard.

Communication with the thickness measurement operator(s) and owner's representative(s) is to be agreed during the meeting, with respect to the following:

- reporting of thickness measurements on regular basis to the attending surveyor
- prompt notification to the surveyor in case of following findings:
 - excessive and/or extensive corrosion or pitting/grooving of any significance
 - structural defects like buckling, fractures and deformed structures
 - detached and/or holed structure
 - corrosion of welds.

When thickness measurements are taken in association with Intermediate or Special Survey, a documented record indicating where and when the meeting took place and who attended (the name of the surveyor(s), the master of the ship or mobile offshore unit or an appropriately qualified representative appointed by the master or Company, the owner's representative(s) and the representative(s) of the thickness measurement firm(s)) is to be maintained.

Footnote:

It is confirmed that this also applies to thickness measurements taken during voyages.

Notes:

1. This Procedural Requirement applies from 1 July 2009.
2. Refer to IACS Recommendation No.77 "Guidelines for the Surveyor on how to Control the Thickness Measurement Process".
3. The changes introduced in Rev.1 of this Procedural Requirement are to be uniformly implemented from 1 January 2018.

No.19

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2.2 Monitoring of the thickness measurement process onboard

The surveyor is to decide final extent and location of thickness measurements after overall survey of representative spaces onboard.

In case the owner prefers to commence the thickness measurements prior to the overall survey then the surveyor is to advise that the planned extent and locations of thickness measurements are subject to confirmation during the overall survey.

Based on findings, the surveyor may require that additional thickness measurements have to be taken.

The surveyor is to direct the gauging operation by selecting locations such that readings taken represent, on average, the condition of the structure for that area.

Thickness measurements taken mainly to evaluate the extent of corrosion, which may affect the hull girder strength, are to be carried out in a systematic manner of all longitudinal structural members that are required to be gauged by the relevant UR(s).

Where thickness measurements indicate substantial corrosion or wastage in excess of allowable diminution, the surveyor is to direct locations for additional thickness measurements in order to delineate areas of substantial corrosion and to identify structural members for repairs/renewals.

Thickness measurements of structures in areas where close-up surveys are required shall be carried out simultaneously with close-up surveys.

2.3 Review and verification

Upon completion of the thickness measurements, the surveyor is to confirm that no further gaugings are needed, or specify additional gaugings.

If, where special consideration is allowed by the UR(s), the extent of thickness measurements is reduced, the surveyor's special consideration is to be reported.

In case thickness measurements are partly carried out, the extent of remaining thickness measurements is to be reported for the use of the next surveyor.

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