

Guidance Note No: 22/96

Revision No: 1

Existing Wooden Vessels – Initial Survey

Discussions with the Federal and State Authorities have left no doubt that all Wooden vessels **offered for survey for the first time** shall be subject to a full Uniform Shipping Laws Code requirements.

Section 14 part 2 para 6.5 of the USL Code – requires “such other information as the Authority may require” which are clarified as follows:

1. Sufficient drawings are to be submitted to enable all major scantlings to be assessed against Code requirements. These will include keel, frames, beams, stringers, bulkhead stiffeners, brackets and engine bearers.
2. Details of all timbers and plywoods used in the construction.
3. Planking sizes and method of fastening for hull, decks, bulkhead and superstructures are to be listed.
4. Pumping and piping drawings are to be provided.
5. Electrical drawings should list major circuits and isolating arrangements and megga test results for all circuits are to be provided.
6. Shaft and rudder stock sizes are to be checked against Code requirements.
7. When the general assessment from drawings has been completed and before survey is commenced, linings and permanent ballast will have to be removed to enable main structural members to be inspected.
8. The number of keel bolts to be removed and other fastenings to be withdrawn can only be defined when the general condition of the timber is assessed.
9. Watertight subdivisions including bulkhead, hatches, coamings, freeing ports, windows, ventilators, air pipes, and damage stability are to meet USL Code Section 5.
10. Structural Fire Protection, Fire fighting appliances and Life-saving apparatus, appropriate for survey class and area of operations, will be assessed to Code requirements.
11. Stability assessment will be to relevant Code requirement.
12. Load lines to relevant Code requirements.
13. Radio equipment to meet requirements of this Authority.
14. Passengers accommodation, crew accommodation, guard rails and bulwarks to meet relevant Code requirements.
15. Miscellaneous Equipment to meet USL Code Section 13.
16. Collision Regulations to meet USL Code Section 16.
17. Any other item as per relevant sections of USL Code.

As an **Alternative** to items 1 to 8 **only**, prospective owners of Imported Wooden vessels are advised that this Authority will recognise vessels that have a Certificate of class issued by one of USL Code approved Classification Societies listed below. It is therefore an option to have a new vessel built, with plans approved and construction surveyed, by one of the

aforementioned bodies for the **same** area of operations ie. “sea-going”, “rivers”, “harbours”, etc. This Authority will then conduct surveys and assess the vessel **against items 9 to 17** and conduct the safety equipment survey prior to the issue of a Certificate of Survey for an equivalent area of operation.

Approved Classification Societies:

LloydsRegister	Det Norske Veritas
Germanischer Lloyd	American Bureau of Shipping
Bureau Veritas	NKK

IMPORTANT:

However it should be noted that a certificate of class issued by one of the recognised classification societies will be recognised **only** for specific items which have been approved by the society. For example one society may cover **only** items 1 to 6 in its rules and may issue a certificate after surveying only items 1 to 6 in which case items 7 to 8 **will need** to be assessed by this Department. Some classification societies may cover **only part** of an item in its survey and hence only that part will be recognised by this Department. **This is in addition to items 9 to 17 which will need to be assessed by this Department.** It will be in the Owners interest to confirm from the proposed society exactly what items are covered under their classification prior to commencing any work.

Owners **not** wishing to maintain their vessels in class, subsequent to issue of the first certificate of survey by this Authority, will need to submit copies of all necessary classification approved plans, calculations etc, for our records.

Signed by: Sri Srinivas
Date Issued: 7 February 2008

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