

REVISED BRITANNIA SHIP CONDITION SURVEY PROGRAMME

The ship condition survey programme remains the principal means by which the Managers review the quality of the tonnage entered in the Association and seeks to ensure the maintenance of standards, with particular emphasis on safety of life at sea. Ship surveys are undertaken not only to assess the physical condition of the ship but also the degree to which shipboard management systems and procedures have been implemented. The surveys also provide a useful means of assisting Members to identify and address any areas of potential risk. All condition surveys are arranged and co-ordinated by the Loss Prevention Department (LPD).

To support a more targeted approach to selecting ships for survey a new risk-based approach has been developed to identify ships, procedures or practices that potentially represent higher levels of risk and therefore should be considered a higher priority for a condition survey. This system replaces the Association's previous benchmarking approach to selecting ships for survey, which required that all Members should have at least one of their ships surveyed every three years. The new risk-based approach will potentially enable us to reduce the number of routine surveys we need to conduct and instead focus on the areas of greatest potential concern which could benefit most from a survey.

A variety of internal and external data sources are used to evaluate the risk criteria, including the results of previous condition surveys, Members' claims data and Port State Control (PSC) data. This risk evaluation process will assist the LPD in identifying ships which may benefit from a condition survey in order to review potential areas of risk. We will also continue to comply with the ship survey requirements stipulated by the International Group (IG).

The Association's revised approach for condition surveys will use two types of survey:

Standard Survey

- These will be based on the Association's current general condition survey programme, using the existing IG forms or their future replacement, and will be conducted by the Association's network of external consultant surveyors.
- The surveys will provide a general "health check" of a ship's condition and operations.

Focussed Survey

- The intention of a Focussed Survey will be to review specific area(s) of a ship and its onboard operations, such as hatch covers, bridge or engine procedures or onboard health and safety processes in more detail than can be achieved during a standard survey, and will be conducted by suitably qualified external consultant surveyors.
- The duration of the surveys will vary depending on the area being focussed on and may require an extended review of specific onboard operations, which may include sailing with the ship.

The LPD will contact each Member whose ship has been identified for a survey to request their permission.

If you have any queries, please contact the LPD via surveys@tindallriley.com