

GUIDE FOR

HULL INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM JULY 2016

Guide to Color Coding Used in Online Version of the Guide

The following summarizes the colors corresponding to Rule Changes, Corrigenda items and editorial changes in the Guide files which are available for download.

Rule Changes:

Changes effective 1 July 2016

Corrigenda:

CORRIGENDA/EDITORIALS – 1 February 2017

CORRIGENDA/EDITORIALS – 1 July 2017

Editorials:

Editorial Changes

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GUIDE FOR

HULL INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

JULY 2016 (Updated July 2017 – see next page)

**American Bureau of Shipping
Incorporated by Act of Legislature of
the State of New York 1862**

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Updates

July 2017 consolidation includes:

- February 2017 version plus Corrigenda/Editorials

February 2017 consolidation includes:

- July 2016 version plus Corrigenda/Editorials

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Foreword

This is the **fifth** edition of the *Guide for Hull Inspection and Maintenance Program*.

The reason for the changes to this Guide was to **further** clarify **the** program requirements.

ABS supports the implementation by Owners of a proactive hull maintenance program complying with self-imposed standards and the requirements in this Guide. In conjunction with the normal classification surveys, such an approach provides a means to regularly evaluate and maintain the vessel's hull structural condition.

This Guide becomes effective on the first day of the month of publication and **will be applicable to all existing vessels with HIMP notation**.

Users are advised to check periodically on the ABS website www.eagle.org to verify that this version of this Guide is the most current.

We welcome your feedback. Comments or suggestions can be sent electronically by email to rsd@eagle.org.



GUIDE FOR HULL INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

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SECTION 1 Introduction

1 General

(1 July 2016) The Hull Inspection and Maintenance Program (HIMP) is offered by ABS to assist Owners and Operators to more effectively inspect and maintain the hull structure on their vessels.

Note: The general term “vessel” used throughout this Guide is meant to be a ship, a barge, an offshore unit or facility, or any other floating or fixed structure where HIMP would be applicable.

Vessels enrolled in this program may be eligible for the optional class notation **HIMP**. *This notation signifies that the vessel classed with ABS is enrolled in the Hull Inspection and Maintenance Program in accordance with this Guide.*

This Guide sets forth requirements for the HIMP intended to assist users in the development, improvement, and application of their hull maintenance management systems. This Guide details the procedures associated with the development and implementation of an approved Hull Inspection and Maintenance Program. When properly performed by Owner’s Qualified Inspectors who are acceptable to ABS, such a program may be used as an aid to more effectively assess and document the condition of the hull structure.

Hull structure inspection and maintenance on vessels using the HIMP with or without the associated notation does not supersede the judgment of an ABS Surveyor, nor does it waive ABS Surveyor attendance for the periodic surveys necessary for maintenance of Class, including damage and repair, as required by the applicable ABS Rules or Guides used for classing the vessel’s hull structure.

Note: The word “Inspector” and “Inspection” in this Guide refers to the Owner’s QI and QI’s inspection respectively. The word “Surveyor” and “Survey” in this Guide refers to the ABS Surveyor and his/her survey respectively.

1.1 IACS PR 33 Owner’s Hull Inspection and Maintenance Schemes

Owner’s hull inspection and maintenance schemes are to be encouraged as a means for maintaining compliance with classification and statutory requirements between surveys. However, these schemes are not to be accepted as an alternative to, or a substitute for, the performance of required classification and/or statutory surveys of the hull by the Surveyors of the Society, or of another duly authorized Society. The Surveyors may be assisted, where appropriate, by service suppliers as defined in UR Z17.

1.3 HIMP Notation *(1 July 2016)*

For assignment of the **HIMP** notation vessel’s hull inspection and maintenance scheme is required to be examined at time of its implementation.

For requirements of the implementation survey, refer to Section 2 of this Guide.

For maintenance of the **HIMP** notation, vessel is to be enrolled into ABS Continuous Survey of Hull and vessel’s hull inspection and maintenance scheme and is required to be examined within the Annual Survey window period of the vessel. For requirements of the maintenance surveys, refer to Section 3 of this Guide.

Note: Vessels classed with “ESP” or “ESDC” notations cannot be enrolled into ABS Continuous Survey of Hull and therefore will not be eligible for HIMP.

The implementation and annual surveys are to be carried out by an Owner’s Qualified Inspector (QI) and ABS Surveyor. For requirements of the QI’s training, duties and performance, which affects the vessel’s **HIMP** notation, refer to Section 4 of this Guide.

Onboard documents, required to be readily available to the ABS Surveyor during the implementation, and annual surveys are referenced in Section 5 of this Guide.