

GENERAL SPECIFICATION

STRUCTURAL

GS EP STR 403

Acceptable criteria of a support vessel for offshore works

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1. Scope

The purpose of this specification is to define acceptance conditions for support vessels to be used for offshore works and for transportation.

The purpose of this specification is to list the main inspections to be carried out for the acceptance of a support vessel: working barge, assistance ship, tug, etc.

The purpose of these inspections is to guarantee that the ships and barges used:

- Comply with approved specifications and/or regulatory requirements
- Are in perfect operating condition
- Allow the execution of scheduled operations in accordance with the state of the art and approved specifications.

They do not release the ship or barge Owner from his obligations related to instructions from national authorities, classification societies and international conventions.

In view of the variety of ships and barges concerned by this specification, it can be considered as a general guide only.

2. Reference documents

The reference documents listed below form an integral part of this General Specification.

Where national regulations exist, their provisions and those of the standards and codes to which they refer shall apply, supplementing or amending the provisions of this document.

If there are no national regulations covering all or part of the subject of this document, the reference documents shall be strictly applied, as supplemented by the provisions of this document.

Only the main reference documents are mentioned; the Contractor shall be responsible for complying with all secondary reference documents dealing with the subject of this document.

Unless otherwise indicated in the detailed contractual conditions, all the reference documents to be used, as well as their supplements shall be the latest editions.

External Documents

Unless otherwise stipulated, the applicable version of these documents, including relevant appendices and supplements, is the latest revision published at the effective date of this document.

Reference	Title
Not applicable	

Other documents

This specification shall be read in conjunction with the following specifications, depending on the ship or barge to undergo acceptance inspection:

- Offshore transportation of structures
- Loadout and sea-fastening of structures for offshore transportation
- Installation of offshore steel platforms
- Submarine works
- Laying of steel pipes
- Laying of flexible pipes
- Laying of cables.

Total General Specifications

Unless otherwise stipulated, the applicable version of these documents, including relevant appendices and supplements, is the latest revision published in the applicable yearly collection.

The provisions of this document shall be applied in the light of the supplementary documents supplied by Company, including:

- Country specificity appendices
- Particular specification
- Data sheets
- Articles and conditions; list of tasks
- Quality assurance provisions.

Reference	Title
Not applicable	

3. Conditions of implementation

It is specified that all equipment on board, even if superfluous to the approved specifications, shall comply with this specification and shall be included in the acceptance program.

Equipment which does not comply with these requirements shall be rendered imperative and/or locked, provided that their presence and locking does not prevent the normal operation of other

ship or barge equipment, and do not present any threat to personnel safety. All such equipment shall be specifically listed in the acceptance report.

4. Acceptance inspection

4.1 Inspection preparation

The acceptance inspection is carried out in accordance with methods defined in the chartering contract.

For this purpose, the following arrangements shall be made before the inspection:

- Preparation of an inspection program and a list of inspections. These documents shall be prepared taking into account the recommendations in this specification and organized according to the special features of the available means. They shall be attached to operating procedures
- Supply of a means of access to the barge from the coast
- Supply of all the qualified personnel and all the equipment necessary to accomplish this inspection
- Ensuring accessibility of all compartments of the barge to be inspected during acceptance (cleaning, degassing, etc.)
- Ensuring availability of ship's documents (originals) as operating and usage procedures approved by the Owner.

4.2 Execution of the acceptance inspection

The inspection shall be carried out in accordance with a previously defined check list.

It shall be carried out jointly by selected representatives of the various parties concerned.

The choices and extent of all non-systematic random inspections and checks carried out shall be determined as a function of the equipment criticality. They may be modified during this inspection depending on results of initial inspections.

The duration of operating tests on the various items of equipment shall be proposed in the inspection program, but may be modified during the inspection.

Depending on the conditions of chartering agreement, the extent and the way the tests are done may be modified.

- Previous operations of the support vessel
- Contractor's reputation, knowledge of this equipment
- Duration of the chartering agreement
- Specificity of the works to be performed
- Applicable jurisdiction of the country where the works have to be performed.

At the end of the inspection, an acceptance report shall be produced and signed by all parties.