



Domestic Commercial Vessel INSTRUCTIONS TO SURVEYORS

DCV-ITS-019 (05/2019)

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| Subject: | Instruction to accredited surveyors for Initial survey of Hovercraft less than 35m in measured length. |
| General: | This Instruction to Surveyors (ITS) outlines the processes to be undertaken and the standards that may be applied to the initial and periodic survey of small hovercraft. |
| Definitions: | Hovercraft, also known as an Air Cushion Vehicle (ACV), is a vessel where the whole or a significant part of its weight can be supported, whether at rest or in motion, by a continuously generated cushion of air dependent for its effectiveness on the proximity of the surface over which the hovercraft operates. |
| Standards: | <p>a. Application of NSCV</p> <p>All chapters of the NSCV shall be applied to Hovercraft.</p> <p>Some of the NSCV <i>deemed-to-satisfy</i> solutions may not be directly applicable to Hovercraft, particularly to smaller vessels, and may even conflict with the design and operational principals for Hovercraft. In these instances owners seeking compliance for their Hovercraft should make application for Equivalent Solution or Specific Exemption offering an alternative solution to satisfy the NSCV required outcomes.</p> <p>All Equivalent Solution or Specific Exemptions requests should be made in the one application (appended where necessary) for the vessel, prior to commencing construction.</p> <p>b. Additional guidance for Chapter C3 Structure</p> <p>The NSCV, Part C, Chapter 3.2.2 offers “<i>Deemed-to-satisfy</i>” alternatives to having a vessel’s structure classed by a Recognised organisation. For Hovercraft, the relevant Lloyds rules referred to in Table 1 are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. For vessels less than 35m and over 13m in measured length <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Lloyds Register of Shipping, <i>Provisional Rules for the Classification of Air Cushion Vehicles</i> and <i>Rules and Regulations for the Classification of Special Service Craft.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. For vessels less than 13m in measured length. <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Hovercraft of less than 13m may comply with the full method of ISO 12215-5 & 6 or for vessels under 7.5 m, the simplified scantling assessment contained in Annex A of the standard.</p> <p>c. Additional guidance for chapter 6A and 6B</p> <p>Hovercraft stability will be assessed with the vessel at rest, in the water and off air cushion.</p> <p>d. Guidance for specific hovercraft components</p> <p>Owners of hovercraft up to 13m in measured length may choose to support equivalency or exemption applications showing equipment and arrangements on their vessels</p> |

meet NSCV required outcomes by complying with the standards in table 1.

| Standard or Code | Reference |
|---|---|
| WHF ¹ 002 Construction Regulations for Racing Hovercraft | Hovercraft ≤ 7.5m |
| WHF 009 Moment of Inertia and Blade Energy Calculations | Hovercraft ≤ 13m |
| WHF 015 Homologated Fans | Hovercraft ≤ 13m |
| ISO 13929 Small craft. Hydraulic steering systems | Hovercraft ≤ 13m |
| ISO 10592 Small Craft. Hydraulic steering systems | Hovercraft ≤ 13m |
| MCA ² , The Hovercraft Code | Hovercraft ≤ 13m Chapter 4.8 Skirt Construction Materials Chapter 7, Propeller and Fan Systems Chapter 9, Steering gear and rudder systems. Chapter 11, Stability Chapter 12, Freeboard Appendix 4 - Hovercraft Propeller Requirements Annex 4A – Endurance testing Annex 4B – Functional testing |
| LR ³ , Provisional Rules for the Classification of Air Cushion Vehicles. | Hovercraft ≥ 13m Chapter 1, General requirements Chapter 2, Surveys during construction, Installation and sea trials Chapter 3, Hull structures Chapter 4, Machinery Other chapters may be used to support Equivalent solution or exemption applications. |

Table 1 Hovercraft Standards and Codes

1. World Hovercraft Federation. <http://whf.hovercraft.org.uk/>.
2. Maritime and Coastguard Agency. The Hovercraft Code of Practice - CoP(24), https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/483172/COP_23_Hovercraft_Code_of_Practice-Final-1.pdf.
3. Lloyds register, P Provisional Rules for the Classification of Air Cushion Vehicles, <http://www.lr.org/en/RulesandRegulations/provisional-rules-for-the-classification-of-air-cushion-vehicles.aspx>.

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