



The Bahamas Maritime Authority

BMA INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 69

CONDITION ASSESSMENT SCHEME (CAS)

Guidance and Instructions for Ship-owners, Managers, Masters, Bahamas Recognised Organisations and Bahamas Approved Nautical Inspectors

Note: This Bulletin supersedes the previous BMA Information Bulletin no. 69 and replaces Instruction to Classification Societies No. 20. The Bulletin is to be read in conjunction with IMO Resolution MEPC.94 (46) and IMO Resolution A. 744(18).

1. General

- 1.1 This Bulletin is intended to give guidance and instructions for the performance and monitoring of the implementation of the Condition Assessment Scheme (CAS) to Bahamas registered vessels.
- 1.2 Under Section 4.1 of CAS, the Administration is required to issue instructions to ensure that CAS Surveys are carried out in accordance with Sections 5 – 10 inclusive of the Scheme. In addition, under Section 11 of the Scheme, the Administration is required to issue instructions to the Recognised Organisations (RO) and Companies regarding verification of the Condition Assessment Scheme.

2. Performance of CAS Surveys

CAS surveys shall be carried out in strict accordance with the requirements set out in IMO Resolution MEPC.94(46), as amended. There is no scope for deviation from the requirements. All CAS requirements must be fully completed according to the Schedule contained in Appendix 5 of the Resolution.

3 Deviation from the CAS Schedule

Under Section 5.3.7 and 6.1.1.6 of CAS, the CAS survey may be carried out outside the strict time frame given, only with the agreement of the Administration. Each application to carry out CAS survey outside the normal time frame must be presented to the BMA in accordance with our agreed procedures, stated in BMA Information Bulletin no.8.

4 Development of the Survey Plan

- 4.1 The Survey Plan is of paramount importance to the satisfactory implementation of CAS requirements. It is intended to be used as a reference document for surveyors and Bahamas Approved Nautical Inspectors. Accordingly, it is necessary for each section of the plan to be completed in detail. Structures must be referred to by frame numbers or other specific reference.
- 4.2 The BMA reserves the right to participate in the development of the Survey Plan, as provided for in CAS Section 6.1.2.1. The Company and RO will be notified in such cases, following review of the Survey Planning Questionnaire. However under normal circumstances, the RO and Company may develop the Survey Plan without further input from the BMA following satisfactory review of the Survey Planning Questionnaire.
- 4.3 A copy of the Survey Plan must be submitted to the BMA accompanied by a suitably detailed General Arrangement (GA) or similar plan showing sufficient detail for cross referencing of structure referred to in with the Survey Plan. Submission of full ship's plans is not required for BMA review.
- 4.4 In order to achieve a satisfactory standard of Survey Plan all Survey Plans must be endorsed by the RO before to submission to the BMA.

5. Personnel involved in the Survey

The RO is required to keep records of the qualifications and experience of surveyors and other personnel assigned to carry out work. In accordance with the provisions of Section 7.1.3 of CAS, The Bahamas requires each RO to monitor the performance of these personnel and to keep records for examination by the BMA if requested.

6. Monitoring and Implementation by the Administration

- 6.1 In addition to the above, the Administration is required to verify CAS as set out in Section 11 of the Scheme. Under Section 11.1, the Administration is to issue instructions to ROs and Companies to enable monitoring of the performance and verify compliance with CAS. This Bulletin is designed to fulfil that requirement.
- 6.2 This Bulletin also reflects the procedures established by the BMA for the uniform and consistent implementation of CAS as required by Section 11.2.
- 6.3 In order to enable monitoring of the performance of work carried out by the RO as required in Section 11.2.2, the BMA requires that the RO:
- i. verifies all of the required conditions necessary for commencement of the CAS survey and to confirm this in writing to the BMA by email.
 - ii. immediately, and prior to commencement of the survey, notifies the BMA of any deviation from the agreed Survey Plan. The BMA will agree to an appropriate course of action, based upon reports from the RO and the Bahamas Approved Inspector in attendance (where applicable).
- 6.4 The BMA may decide to nominate one of its own Inspectors to conduct site visits in order to confirm that CAS surveys are conducted in accordance with the requirements. The Company and RO will normally be notified of any intended attendance during review of the Survey Plan. However in cases as described in paragraph 6.3(ii) above, a Bahamas Approved Nautical Inspector may be appointed to attend the vessel during the CAS survey.
- 6.5 The RO must notify the BMA immediately if it becomes apparent at any time that a ship is unable to satisfactorily complete CAS survey requirements.
- 6.6 A copy of the Interim Statement of Compliance must be forwarded by the RO to the BMA directly upon satisfactory completion of CAS survey.

7 Review of the Final Report

- 7.1 Review of the CAS Final Report by the Administration is required under Section 11.2.3 and this will be carried out by the BMA. Final Reports must be sent direct to the BMA London Office within the period stated in CAS Section 10.2.2.
- 7.2 A consistent standard of reporting to the BMA across all RO is required. The Final Report submitted for review shall include at least the items set out in CAS Section 10.2.3. For ease of reference the format and minimum content required for each Final Report is found in the Annex to this Bulletin. It follows the format required by IMO Resolution MEPC.94(46), as amended and there can be no deviation from this.
- 7.3 The BMA will produce a Review Record in accordance with Section 11.3 of the Scheme, to accompany the Final Report and Statement of Compliance when issued.
- 7.4 Specific unsatisfactory areas of the survey, structural conditions found, or deficiency in reporting to the BMA will be clearly listed in the Review Record with a recommendation for remedial action. The Company and RO will be notified of any such findings at the earliest opportunity. If required the ship may be submitted for re-assessment by the RO and the BMA following completion of corrective actions.
- 7.5 Upon confirmation of satisfactory survey and structural conditions found, the BMA will issue a Statement of Compliance, which will be sent together with a copy of the CAS Final Report and Review Record, to the Company for placing on board the vessel. A copy of the Statement of Compliance together with the Review Record will also be forwarded by the Administration to the RO as required under Section 13.5 of the Scheme, and the IMO will be notified.

8 Charges

- 8.1 Any invoice for the attendance of an Inspector, as per paragraph 6.4 above, will be for the account of the Company.
- 8.2 To reflect the activities required of the Administration, the BMA will charge the Company a fee for the:
- review of the Final Report,
 - review of any further report, and
 - issue and dispatch of CAS Statements of Compliance and other documents.

Annex

Format and minimum content required for the Final Report to the Administration:

Report Format

The CAS Final Report shall include at least the information required in Section 10.2.3 of CAS. They are repeated below for easy reference:

10.2.3 The CAS Final Report shall, at least, include:

- .1 the following general particulars:
 - Ship's name
 - IMO number
 - Flag State
 - Port of registry
 - Gross tonnage
 - Deadweight (tonnes)
 - Summer load line draught
 - Date of delivery
 - Category of ship
 - Date for compliance with regulation 19
 - Company
 - Report identification reference
- .2 a summary as to where, when, by whom and how the CAS survey was carried out;
- .3 a statement identifying all survey documentation, including the Survey Plan;
- .4 a statement as to the condition of the corrosion prevention system(s) applied to the spaces;
- .5 a statement identifying all thickness measurement reports;
- .6 a summary of the findings of the overall surveys;
- .7 a summary of the findings of the close-up surveys;
- .8 a summary of the hull repairs carried out;
- .9 an identification, together with the location, the extent and the condition, of all areas with substantial corrosion;
- .10 a summary of the results of the evaluation of the thickness measurements, including identification of the areas and sections where thickness measurements were carried out;
- .11 an evaluation of the structural strength of the vessel and an assessment of compliance with the acceptance criteria set out in section 8;

- .12 a statement as to whether all the applicable requirements of the CAS have been met;
- .13 a recommendation to the Administration as to whether the ship should be allowed to continue operating until the date required by regulation 20 for compliance with the requirements of regulation 19 or for the period of validity of the CAS, if earlier; and
- .14 conclusions.

8 Content of the report

The content of the Final Report will be verified to include the items above.

The information contained in .1 above will be compared to our Registration Database for accuracy and mutual updating of records.

.2 above may take the form of a simple statement including date(s), location(s), identification of surveyors involved and circumstances of the survey(s) carried out, including access arrangements.

.3 above may take the form of a simple list identifying all documents relating to the survey, including thickness measurements, survey reports, survey plan and survey planning questionnaire.

.4 above should indicate coatings applied in each space and an assessment of coating condition on completion of surveys.

.5 above will simply identify all thickness measurement reports for reference purposes. This information may be included in .3 above.

.6 above may take the form of a simple narrative or a general list for each individual space to indicate the extent of findings in conjunction with the overall survey.

.7 above as for .6. The findings of close up surveys are likely to contain greater detail and therefore be more extensive.

.8 above will contain hull repairs, which should be able to be cross referenced with the findings in .7 and / or .6 above. It is necessary to include the size and location of areas repaired. Details of coatings applied to repaired structure are to be included.

.9 above will identify all remaining areas with substantial corrosion upon completion of repairs. Details of local coating condition on completion of survey and intended actions for monitoring and maintenance should be included.

.10 above will be a narrative stating whether the thickness measurements found may be considered to indicate satisfactory strength of individual areas which were measured, taking account of renewals carried out. A list or table to identify all areas and sections subject to thickness measurement is also to be included, noting areas where thickness measurements were extended, due to findings of substantial corrosion or at the surveyors' discretion.

.11 above should confirm if the ship has satisfactory structural strength, as evaluated in accordance with Res. A 744(18). In case of ships which are not subject to evaluation of structural strength, a statement must be included to confirm that the ship is not required by Res. A 744(18) to have the evaluation carried out. An alternative statement is required in that case, confirming that the structure at completion of surveys is acceptable for continued service.

.12 above may be a simple statement to the effect that following a review of all documentation and photographs related to the survey, the requirements of CAS have been met.

.13 above must contain a firm recommendation to continue operating the ship or not. A finite date of validity must be included in cases of positive recommendation to continue trading.

.14 above may be expected to contain a statement summarising that the above information is sufficient to conclude that the CAS survey requirements have been met and that the structure at completion of surveys is satisfactory for continued use. Alternatively the conclusion may be that the CAS requirements have not been met and / or the structure at completion of surveys is not satisfactory. The deficient items must be specifically referred to in such cases. The reviewing RO may draw other conclusions as appropriate.