

## PART A

### CHAPTER 10

## CERTIFICATE OF FITNESS – IRRADIATED NUCLEAR FUEL SHIPS

### 10.1 Legal Requirements

10.1.1 The requirements relating to the survey and certification of ships engaged in the carriage of irradiated nuclear fuels are contained in the Merchant Shipping (Carriage of Packaged Irradiated Nuclear Fuel etc.) (INF Code) Regulations 2000, SI 2000/ 3216. These regulations give effect to the International Code for the Safe Carriage of Packaged Irradiated Nuclear Fuel, Plutonium and High-Level Radioactive Wastes on Board Ships (the INF Code), and SOLAS chapter VII Part D, regulation 4 refers. These Regulations should be read in conjunction with the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG) Ch 2.7 Class 7 – Radioactive material. The requirements of these regulations apply to all UK ships carrying INF cargo and to all other ships carrying INF cargo whilst within UK waters.

### 10.2 Definitions

10.2.1 Definitions of terms relating to the carriage of irradiated nuclear fuels and International Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of INF Cargo surveys are described in SI 2000/ 3216 regulation 2 and chapter 1 of the INF Code.

### 10.3 Responsibility

10.3.1 This survey has not been delegated to class and is normally carried out by Liverpool Marine Office.

### 10.4 Surveys Required

10.4.1 The Harmonised System of Survey and Certification (HSSC) does not apply, however it is recommended that surveys and certification are harmonised with other Convention certificates where practicable. Chapter 1 of the INF Code requires the following surveys:

- an **Initial Survey**;
- an **Annual Survey**, within three months before or after each anniversary date of the Certificate, other than where an intermediate survey is required;
- an **Intermediate Survey**, within three months before or after the second or third anniversary date of the Certificate;
- a **Renewal Survey**.

## 10.5 Pre-Survey Actions

10.5.1 The following items shall be checked prior to commencing the survey:

- SIAS
- MCA Survey Files
- Exemption Certificates
- New Legislative requirements
- Class Survey Status (via password protected websites)
- PSC Inspection history

Remarks from previous surveys and outstanding deficiencies must be resolved to the satisfaction of the surveyor before the issue of a renewal International Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of INF Cargo, or the annual endorsement of an existing certificate. Any overdue or postponed conditions of class must be followed up with the attending class surveyor or in the absence of a class surveyor discussed with Survey Operations Branch.

10.5.2 Surveys should only be commenced on receipt of a completed "Application for Survey" form (MSF 5100) and after sufficient fees have been received. Further guidance on fees is described in Part C, Chapter 2 of these instructions.

10.5.3 The relevant Business Support Unit administration team processes the application. CERS/SVD must be interrogated to ensure that the correct ship is on the system; if the vessel is not yet on the system (e.g. newbuild, flag-in), the Administrator (TST) should be contacted, who will check the details and arrange for the vessel to be added to the Single Vessel Database (SVD) if appropriate. A "Survey Works Order" is produced which is then tracked for charter standard purposes. This is then passed to the Manager, or other person nominated by them, who then appoints the Lead Surveyor (LS) for the survey.

## 10.6 Items to be surveyed

10.6.1 The survey is to be carried out using the relevant instructions, guidance notes and HQ advice, which may be found on MLD/SCMS. Surveyors should be mindful of their own health and safety during surveys and take account of all guidance provided by MCA as well as their professional judgement in relation to the prevailing circumstances.

10.6.2 Regulation 4 of SI 2000/ 3216 requires that the structure, equipment, fittings, arrangements and material must be surveyed to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Code.

## 10.7 Post Survey Actions

### **10.7.1 Deficiencies**

10.7.1.1 The lead surveyor is responsible for recording and closing out any deficiencies found during the survey/s in the SIAS database, in accordance with the requirements of Part C Chapter 4 of these instructions.

### **10.7.2 Declarations & Certificates**

10.7.2.1 On completion of a survey, the lead surveyor prepares the certificate, following the guidance in Part C Chapter 3 of these instructions.

10.7.2.2 When satisfactory initial/renewal surveys have been completed an **International Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of INF Cargo** (MSF 3003) should be issued, valid for a period not exceeding 5 years.

#### *10.7.2.3 Annual/Intermediate Survey Endorsement*

10.7.2.3.1 On completion of the annual or intermediate survey, the certificate should be endorsed accordingly.

10.7.2.3.2 The 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> annual survey must be an intermediate survey; the endorsement for the same needs to be made by deleting “annual” in the endorsement panel on page 2 of the certificate. When conducting the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual survey in particular this needs to be borne in mind to ensure that one of the surveys is marked (and conducted) as “intermediate”.

10.7.2.3.3 Any endorsements made to the owner’s copy of the certificate should also be recorded on the file copy of the certificate (or by adding a photocopy of the endorsement page to the file), and on the electronic version of the form, on return to the office.

### **10.7.3 Review of Exemptions**

10.7.3.1 Any exemption or equivalents must be reviewed to ensure they are still current and that the qualifying conditions are complied with. Guidance on exemptions and equivalents are described in Part B, Chapter 4 of these instructions.

### **10.7.4 Documents & Records**

10.7.4.1 The table below describes the minimum documents to be completed and filed following a survey.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Record</b>
Record on SIAS?	Yes MSF 1602/3 survey & inspection deficiencies
Place copy on registered file, CM.../047/01	Yes Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of INF Cargo (MSF 3003)

	MCA Declaration MSF1602 and MSF 1603 forms. Annual/intermediate endorsement Relevant test reports/ results Drawings Photographs Exemptions
Minute required on registered file?	Yes
Report Class Related deficiency to Survey Operations Branch?	Yes MSF 1923, if applicable

### 10.7.5 Fees

10.7.5.1 The **Survey Works Order** must be closed out and sent to the relevant Business Support Unit so that fee accounts may be adjusted and any relevant refunds made to the customer.

### 10.8 Flow Chart

None.

### 10.9 Special Instructions and Guidance

10.9.1 Health and safety guidance relating to surveys on ships carrying INF cargo can be found in the Safe Working Practices for MCA Surveyors (MSIS 30), Chapter 26.

10.9.2 Further information can be found in the following:

1. Instructions for the Guidance of Surveyors on the 'Carriage of Cargoes - Volume 1'.
2. Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant **Seafarers**.

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