



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 378 of 04th December 2016

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
	Underwater Shell plating replacement
Reference:	CONARINA Class

Class approved underwater shell plating replacement in Algeciras

A 175-meter tanker suffered cavitation damage to the inside shell plating of one of its ballast water tanks. The ship which lay at anchorage in Algeciras supported a permanent insert repair that would prevent an unscheduled drydock visit for the vessel.

The divers started the operation by installing a cofferdam on the waterside of the affected plating. As agreed with the classification society, the team then cut away an area measuring 350 x 300 mm. Next they prepared the edges of the hole for the insert and positioned the new plate. The insert was then welded following the class-approved procedure for insert plates, using a full penetration weld. An independent inspector carried out ultrasonic testing and the repair was approved by the classification surveyor who was present during the operation.

The operation in Algeciras was performed to the highest quality standards by specific trained diver/welders. These operations follow the procedure for welding cracks and inserts in the vessel's shell plating and they are approved by the major classification societies.

REFERENCES:

- **CONARINA Class**

ATTACHMENTS: No.

kindest Regards,
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