



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 528 of 04<sup>th</sup> January 2019

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To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
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Applicable to flag:	All Flags
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<b>Rudder Linkage is Safer with constant lubrication</b>	
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Reference:	CONARINA -Surveyor's Instructions
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**Rudder Linkage is Safer with constant lubrication**

Hydraulic steering systems and heavy seas can place enormous loads on a vessel's rudder linkage, especially tiller arms and jockey bars. A bearing failure here means a loss of steerage, so metallic bushes need constant lubrication. This requires someone to go below to grease them—a dangerous and difficult task while underway. With massive load strength and dimensional stability, self-lubricating is the safer solution for these specialized applications.

It's really dangerous to send someone down to lubricate bushes when the rudders are moving. . Vesconite doesn't need lubricating, either by hand or an oiling system. Maintenance costs are greatly reduced—as is the potential for an accident. It doesn't swell in water and runs wet or dry without any stick-slip.

Vesconite machines easily with tolerances of +/-0.001". Long-lived, it offers up to ten times the useable life of bronze, even inside a dirty engine room. ISO 9001 accredited, it bears type approval certifications from ABS, Bureau Veritas, China Corporation Register of Shipping, DNV GL, Korean Register of Shipping and Lloyds Register.

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REFERENCES:

- CONARINA Rules and Regulations

- ATTACHMENTS: No.

Kindest Regards,  
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