



## **TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 629 of 9<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

To	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag	All Flags
<b>Title</b>	<b>Steering gear damage survey</b>
Reference	CONARINA - Instructions

### **Steering gear damage survey**

#### **Steering Gear Failures**

In situations where a vessel sustains damage to its steering gear system which renders only one steering gear system functional and permanent repairs cannot be immediately affected and the Owner requests for the vessel to continue trading.

In general, the following additional measures need to be complied with prior to permitting the vessel to continue the voyage:

- Owner is to be advised that all possible arrangements be made for permanent repairs to be affected at the next port of call.
- Remaining steering gear system is to be tested and confirmed to be in satisfactory operating condition.
- Vessel can proceed with tug escort of adequate horsepower until permanent repairs are satisfactorily completed.
- The tug escort is to be arranged such that there is a tow line connected to the tug while navigating in restricted waters. This tow line may be disconnected while the vessel is in open seas, with the tugboat escorting the vessel.
- The vessel's Flag Administration is to be contacted for concurrence with the foregoing and for issuance of a short-term Cargo Ship Safety Construction certificate.

There have been cases of steering system damage where vessels sustain damage to the rudder such that the rudder is no longer in line with the helm, the rudder blade is no longer in line with the rudder stock center or detachment of a substantial section of the rudder blade, which renders the vessel unable to have full maneuverability. In such cases where the Damage Survey and the steering trials confirm the vessel does have limited maneuverability and repairs cannot be affected immediately, and owner intends to sail the vessel to the next port, the CONARINA Head Office shall be contacted in order to determine action to be taken and if the above additional requirements apply.

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REFERENCES:

- CONARINA – Instructions. Courtesy of ABS.
- ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,

Val Bozenovici  
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