



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 776 of 4th May 2023

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	Anti-Fouling Systems
Reference	CONARINA Instructions

Anti-Fouling Systems

AFS Convention

Article 10 of the AFS Convention requires ships to be surveyed and certified in accordance with the regulations contained in Annex 4 of the Convention.

The AFS Convention does not require that a ship have an AFS, only that if a ship does have an AFS that it complies with the AFS Convention.

Documentation

Prior to commencing an AFS survey for issuance of either a document or certificate, the Surveyor is to require the manufacturer and the application facility to submit the following:

Confirmation that the anti-fouling system is in compliance with the Convention is required from the manufacturer. Such declaration shall include the following information:

- Type of anti-fouling system
- Name of anti-fouling system manufacturer
- Name and color of anti-fouling system
- Active ingredient(s) and their Chemical Abstract Service Registry Number (CAS number)
- Copy of the purchase order or contract linking the identified AFS with the ship to which the AFS is to be (or has been) applied
- Safety Data Sheet (SDS) or similar document to support the use of Organotin-free or Biocide-free AFS should also be submitted with the product information, if applicable.

A statement will be made from the AFS application facility indicating that the non-compliant paint has been either removed and replaced or sealed with the AFS identified by the information

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provided by the AFS manufacturer. A purchase order for the AFS that is to be (or has been) applied, which provides a link to the information requested from the AFS manufacturer are required.

Verification

AFS verification performed by Conarina is to be limited to reviewing the documentation required to be submitted. The documentation review is to check that:

- The declaration includes all of the required information
- The product identification on the AFS containers corresponds to the declaration of AFS provided by the facility
- An identification system exists that establishes a traceable link between the supporting documentation and the AFS container based on a random check of the containers.

Changes

Any changes or replacement of the existing anti-fouling system are to be endorsed on the Record, which may be a hand-written entry. Alternatively, a new IAFS certificate or SO(V)C may be issued reflecting the new application date and activity done; proper box selection must be done in the certificate, (recoated or re-sealed).

AFS re-tested

If the documentation review reveals discrepancies, inconsistencies or does not provide for a traceable link between information, the AFS is to be re-tested by the AFS manufacturer or a firm recognized by the AFS manufacturer, unless matters can be resolved between the AFS manufacturer and the ship owner, as to the cause for such discrepancies to the satisfaction of the Surveyor (and so documented between the parties).

Certification

All certificates/SOCs, when issued on behalf of the Flag Administration, shall be copied to the Flag Administration, if so required by the flag specific instructions.

For non-Signatory states and after satisfactory completion of the survey outlined in this procedure, a SOC may be issued on behalf of the Administration, if so authorized by the Administration. A SOVC may be issued at the request of the ship owner. A completed AFS Record is to be attached to the SOC or SOVC.

For Signatory states and after satisfactory completion of the survey outlined in this procedure, an

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International Anti-Fouling Systems (IAFS) certificate shall be issued together with a completed IAFSC Record attached to it.

For ships that fly the flag of an EU Member State that is not yet signatory to the AFS Convention, and are required to comply with the EU AFS regulations, an EU IAFS certificate is to be issued, along with a completed EU IAFSC Record.

Ships and barges of 400 gross tonnage and above engaged on international voyages as specified in Regulation 1(1) of Annex 4 to the Convention, must be certified.

A ship of 24 meters or more in length but less than 400 gross tonnage engaged in international voyages, shall carry a Declaration signed by the Owner or Owner's authorized agent. The Declaration shall be accompanied by appropriate documentation (such as a paint receipt or a contractor invoice)

REFERENCES:

- AFS Convention

ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,
CONARINA Technical Office

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