



## TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 793 of 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	<b>Remote Survey – Info and communication technology (ITC)</b>
Reference	Use of remote survey

### Use of Remote Surveys

Upon assignment, the process covers remote surveys for marine and offshore vessels surveys and audits. Remote survey provides a vehicle to facilitate equivalencies with normal physical attendance. Adopting the use of remote surveys is on a voluntary basis and designed to complement traditional survey execution.

The Surveyor assigned to the project has the primary responsibility for complying with instructions contained in the CONARINA instruction.

These guidance notes are intended to establish the framework for allowing persons from different physical locations to execute traditional survey methods in an on-line environment in which processes are executed, where demonstration of evidence, conformity or traceability can be confirmed via electronic means.

This is accomplished using Information and Communication technology (ICT) which is used for gathering, storing, retrieving, processing, analyzing and transmitting information. It includes software and hardware such as smartphones, handheld devices, laptop computers, desktop computers, drones, video cameras, wearable technology, artificial intelligence, and others. The use of ICT may be appropriate for remote surveys both locally and remotely.

Examples of the use of ICT during remote survey may include but are not limited to:

- i. Surveys and/or Meetings; by means of teleconference facilities, including audio, video and data sharing.
- ii. Assessment of documents and records by means of remote access, either synchronously (in real time) or asynchronously (when available)
- iii. Recording of information and evidence by means of photograph(s), still video, video, or audio recordings.

The objectives for the effective application of ICT for remote survey purposes are:

-To provide a methodology for the use of ICT that is sufficiently flexible and non-prescriptive in nature to optimize the conventional survey process

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- To ensure that adequate controls are in place to avoid abuses that could compromise the integrity of the survey process
- To support the principles of safety and sustainability

When ICT is proposed for remote survey activities, the application review shall include a check that the client has the necessary infrastructure to support the use of the ICT proposed.

A plan shall identify how ICT will be utilized and the extent to which ICT will be used for remote survey to optimize the effectiveness and efficiency while maintaining the integrity of the remote survey. The client should provide input on this process and their capabilities.

When using ICT, surveyors and other involved persons (e.g., technical experts) shall have the competency and ability to understand and utilize the information and communication technologies employed to achieve the desired results of the remote survey. The surveyor shall also be aware of the risks and opportunities of the information and communication technologies used and the impacts that they may have on the validity and objectivity of the information gathered.

If ICT is used for remote survey purposes, it may contribute to the total survey time as additional planning may be necessary. This may impact and increase the survey duration.

#### REFERENCES:

- CONARINA instruction, courtesy of ABS.

ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,  
CONARINA Technical Office

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