



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 890 of 6th September 2025

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System
Reference	HSSC

Revision of the Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC)

The Survey Guidelines, initially adopted as Assembly Resolution A.746(18), have undergone regular reviews and updates to align with new regulatory requirements. Although these guidelines are not mandatory according to the IMO, they are mandated for all European Union Recognized Organizations under EU Regulation (EC) 391/2009.

The Sub-Committee had previously established a Correspondence Group (CG) to review the text of the Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC), 2023, (Resolution A.1186(33)) to identify any gaps between the Survey Guidelines and the mandatory requirements, which includes those amendments to the relevant IMO regulations that have entered into force up since December 31, 2023.

Incorporated into the latest amendments to the Survey Guidelines under HSSC are the survey items related to the Industrial Personnel (IP) Code, as well as survey items related to the examination of certificates and records, including the Anti-Fouling System (AFS) certificate. Along with the draft amendments to the Survey Guidelines under HSSC, the Sub-Committee considered the following issues:

- Survey items relevant to the calibration check of BWMS and review of all survey items subject to the BWM Convention – since the revision of the BWMS Code is currently under way, the Sub-Committee considered that the review of the survey items relating to the BWM Convention be conducted after the amendments **to the BWM Convention are adopted**.
- Development of Guidelines for the Hong Kong Convention (HKC) – the Sub-Committee acknowledged the need to incorporate survey guidelines under the HKC into the HSSC

CONARINA Head Office

6505 Blue Lagoon Dr. Suite 455
Miami, FL., 33126
Tel: 1 (786) 558 5288,
Fax: 1 (786) 325 0200,
bel@conarinagroup.com



Guidelines, but considered that they would require further technical consideration at a future session. Until incorporation into the HSSC Guidelines, the current 2012 Guidelines for the Survey and Certification of Ships under the Hong Kong Convention (MEPC.222(64)) continue to be applicable.

The Sub-Committee finalized the draft amendments to the Survey Guidelines under HSSC 2023. These draft revisions encompass survey requirements for mandatory instruments that will come into effect by December 31, 2025, along with amendments to SOLAS, following its four-year cycle for entry into force.

Next Steps: The revised guidelines will be presented at Assembly 34 (December 2025) for adoption with an entry into effect date from 1 January 2026.

REFERENCES:

- Assembly Resolution A.746(18)

ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,
CONARINA Technical Office

CONARINA Head Office

6505 Blue Lagoon Dr. Suite 455
Miami, FL., 33126
Tel: 1 (786) 558 5288,
Fax: 1 (786) 325 0200,
joel@conarinagroup.com