

Guidance for Autonomous Ships

(Development Review : For external opinion inquiry)

2026. 01.



Machinery Rule Development Team

Effective Date : 1 July 2026

(The contract date for ship construction)

Present	Amendment	Remark
<p>CHAPTER 1 <same as the present Rules> CHAPTER 2 CLASS SURVEY (2024)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Section 1 General</p> <p>101. Approval procedure of autonomous ships</p> <p>1. - 3. <same as the present Rules></p> <p>4. General approval process</p> <p>(1) - (2) <same as the present Rules></p> <p>(3) Review of approval for autonomous system</p> <p>(A) - (B) <same as the present Rules></p> <p>(C) If the autonomous level is AL3 or higher and the degree of novelty is 3 or higher, the risk-based approval procedure or risk assessment is carried out for the target ship's autonomous system.</p> <p>(4) <same as the present Rules></p> <p>102. <same as the present Rules></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Section 2 Classification Survey</p> <p>201. <u>Classification Survey during Construction</u></p> <p>1. <u>General</u></p> <p>(1) - (4) <same as the present Rules></p>	<p>CHAPTER 1 <same as the present Rules> CHAPTER 2 CLASS SURVEY (2024)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Section 1 General</p> <p>101. Approval procedure of autonomous ships</p> <p>1. - 3. <same as the present Rules></p> <p>4. General approval process</p> <p>(1) - (2) <same as the present Rules></p> <p>(3) Review of approval for autonomous system</p> <p>(A) - (B) <same as the present Rules></p> <p>(C) If the autonomous level is AL3 or higher and, or if the degree of novelty is 3 or higher, the risk-based approval procedure or risk assessment is carried out for the target ship's autonomous system. (2026)</p> <p>(4) <same as the present Rules></p> <p>102. <same as the present Rules></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Section 2 Classification Survey</p> <p>201. Classification Survey during Construction <u>General (2026)</u></p> <p>1. General</p> <p>(1) - (4) 1. - 4. <same as the present Rules></p>	<p>(Amended)</p> <p>- Clarified the risk-based approval process and the scope of risk assessment.</p> <p>(Amended)</p> <p>- Changed the title of Article 201.</p> <p>- Numbering</p>

Present	Amendment	Remark
<p><u>2. Installation survey</u></p> <p>It is to be confirmed that it is working as close to actual as possible after installation on board. And it is to be confirmed that a predefined safety system is working effectively in case of system failure or danger.</p> <p>(1) – (2) <same as the present Rules> (A) – (B) <same as the present Rules> (3) – (5) <same as the present Rules></p> <p><u>3. Sea trial</u></p> <p>For AL3 or higher, it is to verify that the system is operating effectively for the autonomous ships operating within the operation scope and risk presented in the operation plan through the sea trial.</p> <p>(1) – (2) <same as the present Rules> (A) Check whether the collision avoidance function is performed to suit the collision avoidance (Head-on/Crossing) scenario. (3) <same as the present Rules> (A) – (E) <same as the present Rules> (4) <same as the present Rules></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Section 3 <same as the present Rules></p> <p>CHAPTER 3 – 4 <same as the present Rules></p>	<p><u>2. 202. Installation survey <u>Onboard test (2026)</u></u></p> <p>It is to be confirmed that it is working as close to actual as possible after installation on board. And it is to be confirmed that a predefined safety system is working effectively in case of system failure or danger.</p> <p>(1) — (2) 1. – 2. <same as the present Rules> (A) — (B) (1) – (2) <same as the present Rules> (3) — (5) 3. – 5. <same as the present Rules></p> <p><u>3. 203. Sea trial (2026)</u></p> <p>For AL3 or higher, it is to verify that the system is operating effectively for the autonomous ships operating within the operation scope and risk presented in the operation plan through the sea trial.</p> <p>(1) — (2) 1. – 2. <same as the present Rules> (A) Check whether the collision avoidance function is performed to suit the collision avoidance (Head-on/Crossing) scenario. (3) 3. <same as the present Rules> (A) — (E) (1) – (5) <same as the present Rules> (4) 4. <same as the present Rules></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Section 3 <same as the present Rules></p> <p>CHAPTER 3 – 4 <same as the present Rules></p>	<p>(Amended)</p> <p>– Changed the title of Article 202.</p> <p>– Numbering</p>