



## TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 597 of 07<sup>th</sup> December 2019

To	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag	All Flags
Title	<b>Survey Findings</b>
Reference	CONARINA-Survey Instructions

### SURVEY FINDINGS

#### Types of Finding

In the Survey Reporting system, there are three (3) types of findings:

- Outstanding
- Observation and
- Record Only comment.

When creating 'outstanding' type finding, one of the following "Condition" types finding will be generated:

- ✓ Condition of Class
- ✓ Statutory Condition
- ✓ Special Condition

#### Definitions of Findings:

- **Conditions of Class** - where necessary repairs required to maintain Class are not completed at the time of survey.
- **Class Additional requirements** - defined as conditions that are in accordance with the Class Rules but require additional attention to maintain class. Examples of which are: substantial corrosion, gear mesh inspections, lubricating oil analysis or metal stitching repairs.

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- **Class Record-Only** - may be used where the Surveyor does not recommend repairs, re-examination or any other follow-up actions which do not affect class. For example: small damages or minor hull indents that are "noted for record only" purposes
- **Statement/Observation** - may be used to report on findings for which no recommendation or repair need to be carried out.

Statutory **Conditions** Definitions:

- **Statutory Conditions** are missing or defective items that detract from the effectiveness of equipment or the vessel.
- **Statement/Observation** - may be used to report on findings for which no recommendation nor repairs need to be carried out.

Major and Minor **Statutory Conditions**

- **Major Statutory Conditions** may significantly endanger the safety of the ship, life on board, or the marine environment. They may prevent a vessel from proceeding to sea. Examples of major deficiencies include:
  - unusable lifeboats
  - inoperative fire pumps or fixed fire extinguishing systems for SLE
  - severe wastage
  - prompt and thorough repairs that are not carried out at the port where they were found
  - ineffective hatch covers and closing appliances.
- **Minor Statutory Conditions** do not significantly endanger the ship, persons on board, or the marine environment. They may or may not prevent a vessel from proceeding to sea. Minor deficiencies include:
  - lost anchor
  - defective ship's service generator temporarily replaced by a unit on deck
  - overdue service of inflatable life rafts.

For repairs not completed at the time of survey, a **condition of class** and/or statutory **condition**, as applicable is to be imposed. The finding needs to provide adequate information for subsequent Surveyors. The class **conditions of class** and/or statutory **conditions** are to include a description of the item, what the defect is, and the rectification required. It is essential that the findings are properly linked to their compartment/primary structure or system/equipment by assigning the proper **Virtual Vessel assets** to the finding. The finding should also be assigned the proper defect type and descriptor from the available list.

The Surveyor must understand the difference between a **condition of class** and a statutory **condition**.

- For **conditions of class**, the Surveyor is to use his/her judgement to determine the due date and the scope of the recommendation based on the provided information from the vessel's owner.
- For **statutory conditions**, the Surveyor is a representative of the Flag, and advise the CONARINA Head Office when necessary to remove the Full Term and issue a Short-Term Certificate.

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The Finding should contain:

- Location of the finding (e.g., compartment-space, P or S, Forward or Aft, Upper or Lower)
- Primary structure/system/equipment affected
- Associated Structures/equipment/component affected by the finding
- Failure** type (e.g., wastage, deformation, fracture, faulty coating protection, mechanical defect, electrical defect, wear down or inadequate design/documentation)
- Failure** descriptor (e.g., in wastage it can be pitting, corrosion, grooving, etc. For deformation it could be buckled, set-in, tripped, etc. For mechanical defect it could be blocked, choked, pressure loss, twisted, misalignment, rupture, etc.)
- Reported cause of the finding (e.g., wear, wastage, grounding, breakdown, etc.) which may be different from the Damage and Repair survey task incident descriptor
- The reason the Finding is acceptable for the time allowed. This may include the installation of temporary equipment or demonstrating that the vessel/unit meets the Rules, even with the item in question out of service. Examples:
  - Object was temporarily repaired with a welded patch, pressure tested and found satisfactory
  - Examined and found satisfactory for one trip to the repair yard
  - Cement box was installed over hole inside shell, tested and found satisfactory

### **Due Date of Findings**

A realistic time limit for completion of **a Condition of class / Statutory Condition** should be imposed to allow the owner time to comply with the **Condition of class / Statutory Condition** (s) such as obtaining replacement parts for machinery. The owner should be consulted when determining the due date for **a Condition of class / Statutory Condition**.

Where it is appropriate, finding due dates should be set a minimum of 90-days to allow the reporting system to send automatic notifications to the client regarding the **finding** due date.

When the due date is set at less than 90-days from the date the finding is created, the client will not receive automatic notifications regarding the finding coming due.

Statutory **condition** due dates should be determined with concurrence from the Flag Administration.

### **Operational Limitations Imposed by Findings**

**Conditions of class / Statutory Conditions** may require imposing limitations related to navigation and operation that are deemed necessary for continued operation under classification (e.g., loss of anchor and/or chain, etc.).

### **Wording of Recommendations**

A recommendation should be written so that it does not require that the next attending Surveyor to follow a specific course of action such as "crop and renew", but instead to allow them to reexamine and determine the course of action at that time.

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Example: “. . . found in Port No 3-ballast tank at Frame No 76 is to be further examined and dealt with as considered necessary prior to crediting next Annual Survey”

REFERENCES:

- CONARINA – Instruction, Courtesy of ABS
- ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,  
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