

SUB-COMMITTEE ON SHIP DESIGN AND  
CONSTRUCTION  
1st session  
Agenda item 4

SDC 1/4/1  
12 November 2013  
Original: ENGLISH

**DEVELOPMENT OF PROVISIONS TO ENSURE THE INTEGRITY AND UNIFORM  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1969 TM CONVENTION**

**Proposal for tonnage measurement of ships constructed of materials other than metal**

**Submitted by the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS)**

**SUMMARY**

*Executive summary:* This document requests clarification from the Sub-Committee on how to measure the tonnage of ships constructed with material other than metal

*Strategic direction:* 2

*High-level action:* 2.0.1

*Planned output:* 2.0.1.5

*Action to be taken:* Paragraph 4

*Related documents:* None

**Introduction**

1 IACS believes that there are difficulties when measuring the tonnage of ships built in composite sandwich panels (typically, but not limited to, yachts). For these ships, the volume of the structure can be significant as it will include the core material of the sandwich and even voids in reinforcements.

**Proposal**

2 On the basis of exchange of information between IACS members and careful reading of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969, IACS has reached the following understanding:

Taking into account the provisions of regulations 2(2), 2(3) and 6 of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969, the measurement for the ships constructed with material other than metal, should be as follows:

- .1 to the outer surface of the hull (outer surface of the shell) for the hull and for its continuation (side to side erections such as poop, forecastle and raised quarter deck); and
- .2 to the inner side of structural boundary surfaces for the other superstructures.

3 Noting that the above understanding leads to two opposite principles depending on the location mentioned in paragraph 2 above, IACS would request clarification from the Sub-Committee, in order that this issue can be clarified in ongoing work that is being undertaken to develop appropriate interpretations of the Convention.

**Action requested of the Sub-Committee**

4 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the above proposals and take action as appropriate.

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