



Technical Circular

No.: 007/2021

Date: 27th January 2021

Subject: DGS, Order No. 04 of 2021 Reg Extension to the validity of Ship's Statutory Certificates, Periodical Surveys and Audits in view of COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Reference is made to Technical Circular No. 109/2020 & Technical Circular No. 133/2020 based on DGS Order No. 23 of 2020 & DGS Order No. 34 of 2020 in respect of extension to the validity of Ship's Statutory Certificates, Periodical Surveys and Audits in view of COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Vide DGS Order No. 23 of 2020, Administration had granted extension to the validity of statutory certificates to ships whose statutory surveys were expiring between **1st September 2020 and 31st October 2020.**
3. Subsequently, the Directorate, vide DGS Order No. 34 of 2020, had extended the extensions granted under DGS Order No. 23 of 2020 **till 31st December 2020.**
4. The Directorate, vide DGS Order No. 04 of 2021, has now decided to extend the extensions granted under DGS Order No. 23 of 2020 **till 31st March 2021** subject to fulfilling following additional conditions:
 - a. Docking Surveys extension will only be granted upon submission of a firm Stemming Agreement with the dry dock, other conditions remain the same as per DGS order 23 of 2020. No further extension will be granted if the dock fails to adhere to the agreed / commitment date as per the stemming agreement.
 - b. In-case of all those vessels where an extension has already been obtained after submission of firm stemming agreement, no further extension will be considered unless valid reasons are furnished by the applicant towards the change in the stemming date. Also, the period of further extension sought will be within the maximum period considered under DCS Order 23 of 2020.
 - c. Owners sighting non-availability of BWM Management system complying with D-2 standard or delay in receiving from the supplier as the reason for getting DS extension will not be considered. In such circumstances of delay in receiving the BWM System, the owners must complete the dry-docking surveys of the vessel and will be permitted to operate the vessel on Indian coast only with compliance to D-1 standard of BWM System.
 - d. No extension will be granted for Annual Surveys and Intermediate/Renewal SMC Audits/MLC Inspections unless the mail correspondence between the Owner and RO



. This Technical Circular and the material contained in it is provided only for the purpose of supplying current information to the reader and not as an advice to be relied upon by any person.

. While we have taken utmost care to be as factual as possible, readers/ users are advised to verify the exact text and content of the Regulation from the original source/ issuing Authority.

can demonstrate that due-diligence was carried out to complete these surveys/audits/inspections well in advance, that is, at-least 3-months prior to expiry date/window-range date and no RO Surveyor could board due to lock-down/travel restriction.

- e. Any request for extension beyond the maximum period indicated in DGS Order 23 of 2020 will only be considered under exceptional circumstances **on a case to case basis**, and will be based upon a satisfactory inspections / trials / structural assessment with regard to the type and age of the vessel, as decided between the RO and Directorate. In-case of any request under this clause, the owner is to undertake that the vessel will operate only in Indian coast.
5. All other requirements/ conditions as per DGS Order No. 23 of 2020 remains the same.
6. Ship owners/ operators and managers of Indian flagged ships contemplating delay in carrying out mandatory periodical surveys, audits and inspections due to the COVID-19 situation are advised to be guided by above and act accordingly.
7. **This Technical Circular supersedes and revokes earlier Technical Circular No. 133/2020, dated 05th November 2020.**

Enclosure:

1. DGS Order No. 04 of 2021, dated 22 January 2021.

Whilst the utmost care has been taken in the compilation of the Technical Information, neither Indian Register of Shipping, its affiliates and subsidiaries if any, nor any of its directors, officers, employees or agents assume any responsibility and shall not be liable to any person for any loss, damage or expense caused in any manner whatsoever by reliance on the information in this document.



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI

File No: 26-11/69/2020-NA - DGS

Date : 22.01.2021

DGS Order No. 04 of 2021

Subject: Extension of Validity of Ships Statutory Surveys and Audits

Whereas vide DGS Order 23 of 2020 dated 19.08.2020, the Directorate has permitted extension of Ship's Statutory Surveys, due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, after fulfilment of certain requirements.

2. Whereas the applicability of the aforesaid DGS Order was extended by the Directorate vide *DGS Order 34 of 2020* dated 03.11.2020 but was restricted only to those ships and to Companies whose Audits / Surveys / Inspections were getting overdue on/prior to 31 December 2020, either because of expiry of window period or validity period or the 1st extension period arising due to COVID-19 pandemic circumstances.

3. Whereas the Directorate has granted 2nd extension, even though the grant of 1st extension was based on firm commitment from Docks, as the Dock could not meet its commitment, after having satisfactorily complying with the stipulated conditions / inspections by the Recognised Organisation (RO).

4. Noting that, the Directorate is still receiving a number of requests for extension of Docking Surveys due in January 2021 or beyond either due to non-availability of Docks / postponement of committed docking date by dry docks or stating reasons such as extra time required by supplier to supply of Ballast Water Management System in compliance with Regulation D-2 of the BWM Convention.

5. Taking all the above into consideration, it is urged that the ship-owners shall exercise due diligence and put best effort to complete the statutory surveys / audits / inspections of ship / company by the due dates, and avoid submitting requests for extensions of due dates.

Nevertheless, in exceptional circumstances, the Directorate may grant extension to the DGS Order 23 of 2020 till 31st March 2021 upon fulfilling following additional conditions:

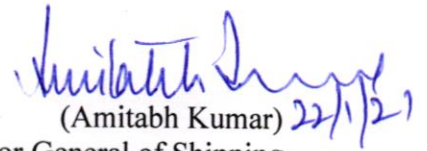
9वीं मंज़िल, बीटा बिल्डिंग, आई थिंक टेक्नो कैम्पस, कांजुर गाँव रोड, कांजुरमार्ग (पूर्व) मुंबई- 400042

9th Floor, BETA Building, I-Think Techno Campus, Kanjur Village Road, Kanjurmarg (E), Mumbai-400042

फ़ोन/Tel No.: +91-22-2575 2040/1/2/3 फ़ैक्स/Fax.: +91-22-2575 2029/35 ई-मेल/Email: dgship-dgs@nic.in वेबसाइट/Website: www.dgshipping.gov.in

- (i) Docking Survey (DS) extension shall only be granted upon submission of a firm Stemming Agreement with the dry dock, other conditions shall remain the same as per DGS Order 23 of 2020. It may be noted that no further extension can be granted if the dock fails to adhere to the agreed / commitment date as per the stemming agreement.
- (ii) In-case of all those vessels where an extension has already been obtained after submission of firm stemming agreement, no further extension will be considered unless valid reasons are furnished by the applicant towards the change in the stemming date. Also, the period of further extension sought shall be within the maximum period considered under DGS Order 23 of 2020.
- (iii) Owners sighting non-availability of Ballast Water Management (BWM) system complying with D-2 standard or delay in receiving from the supplier as the reason for getting DS extension shall not be considered. In such circumstances of delay in receiving the BWM system, the owners must complete the dry-docking surveys of the vessel and will be permitted to operate the vessel on Indian coast only with compliance of D-1 standard of BWM system.
- (iv) No extension shall be granted for Annual Surveys and Intermediate / Renewal SMC Audits / MLC Inspections unless the mail correspondence between the Owner and RO can demonstrate that due-diligence was carried out to complete these surveys / audits / inspections well in advance, that is, at-least 3-months prior to expiry date / window-range date and that no RO Surveyor could board due to lock-down / travel restriction.
- (v) Any request for extension beyond the maximum period indicated in DGS Order 23 of 2020 will only be considered under exceptional circumstances on a case to case basis, and shall be based upon a satisfactory inspections / trials / structural assessment with regard to the type and age of the vessel, as decided between the RO and Directorate. In-case of any request under this clause the owner shall undertake that the vessel will operate only in Indian coast.

6. In case of prevailing travel restrictions and non-availability of surveyor of RO, which has a prior contract for Statutory Surveys with the Owner, all ROs shall cooperate as far as possible for completion of Annual Surveys / SMC Audits / MLC Inspections by allowing another RO having presence in a particular port to complete the same.



(Amitabh Kumar) 22/1/21
Director General of Shipping
& Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India