

Status of Classification Society Recognition, Delegations, and Authorizations by the U.S. Coast Guard

Class Society Status	ABS	BV	ClassNK	DNV	LR	RINA	IRCLASS	CCS	CRS	DBS	IBS	INSB	ITNELREG	KR	PHRS	OMCS	RS
Recognized (46 CFR part 8, subpart B)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alternate Compliance Program (ACP) (46 CFR part 8, subpart D)	✓+		✓+	✓+	✓+												
Classification Society Activities (46 CFR part 2, subpart 2.45)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Authorizations	ABS	BV	ClassNK	DNV	LR	RINA	IRCLASS	CCS	CRS	DBS	IBS	INSB	INTELREG	KR	PHRS	OMCS	RS
International Convention on Load Lines, 1966, as modified by the 1988 Protocol, as amended (ICLL66/88)																	
International Load Line Certificate (LL Protocol)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
Tonnage																	
ITC (46 CFR 69, subpart B)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
U.S. Regulatory (46 CFR 69, subparts C & D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, and Protocols of 1978 & 1988, as amended (SOLAS 74/78)																	
Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate (SOLAS)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate (SOLAS)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
Passenger Ship Safety Certificate (SOLAS)	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓										
Document of Compliance for Ships Carrying Dangerous Goods (IMSBC Code) (SOLAS regulation II-2/19)	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓										
Cargo Securing Manual Approval (33 CFR 97.300)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
International Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
International Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of Liquefied Gases in Bulk (IGC Code)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
Document of Compliance Certificate and Interim Certificate (ISM Code)	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓										
Safety Management Certificate and Interim Certificate (ISM Code)	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓										
Authorize service providers for lifesaving appliances (LSA) according to MSC.402(96)	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓											
Conduct periodic audits on authorized service providers for LSA according to MSC.402(96)	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓											
International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978, as amended (MARPOL 73/78)																	
International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate (MARPOL 73/78, Annex I)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
International Pollution Prevention Certificate for the Carriage of Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk (NLS Certificate) (MARPOL 73/78 Annex II)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
Verification of Compliance with MARPOL 73/78 Annex III (Packaged Harmful Substances)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
International Sewage Pollution Prevention Statement of Voluntary Compliance (SOVC) (MARPOL 73/78 Annex IV)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
Verification of Compliance with MARPOL 73/78 Annex V (Garbage)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
International Energy Efficiency Certificate (IEE) (MARPOL 73/78, Annex VI)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
Verification of Compliance of Ship Fuel Oil Consumption Data (MARPOL 73/78, Annex VI)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
International Air Pollution Prevention Certificate (MARPOL 73/78, Annex VI)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships (AFS)																	
International Anti-Fouling System Certificate (IAFS)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
Other Conventions, Codes, and Guidelines																	
Polar Ship Certificate according to the International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters (Polar Code)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓											
Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit Safety Certificate (MODU Code)	✓	✓			✓		✓										
Certificate of Fitness for the Transport and Handling of Limited Amounts of Hazardous and Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk on Offshore Support Vessels (resolution A.673(16), as amended)	✓	✓		✓													
Statement of Voluntary Compliance (SOVC) with Ballast Water Management Convention	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
Document of Compliance for Offshore Supply Vessel according to IMO Resolution MSC.235(82)	✓	✓		✓													
Cargo Gear Certificates and Registers (46 CFR Parts 31.10-16 & 91.25-25)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
✓ — authorized	+ — ACP vessels only																

Neutrality Statement: All authorized classification societies are subject to the same qualification and oversight processes and each is given equal status within their delegated authority and recognized function. The U.S. Coast Guard provides no advantage or special privilege to any one authorized classification society over another.

Revised: 03 Mar 2025, Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance (CG-CVC)

Classification Society Abbreviations

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| ABS - American Bureau of Shipping | RINA | IBS - Isthmian Bureau of Shipping | OMCS - Overseas Marine Certification Services |
| BV - Bureau Veritas | IRCLASS - Indian Register of Shipping | INBS - International Naval Surveys Bureau | RS - Russian Maritime Register of Shipping |
| ClassNK - Nippon Kaiji Kyokai | CCS - China Classification Society | INTELREG - International Register of Shipping | |
| DNV - Det Norske Veritas | CRS - Croatia Register of Shipping | KR - Korean Register | |
| LR - Lloyd's Register | DBS - Dromon Bureau of Shipping | PHRS - Phoenix Register of Shipping | |