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# No.42 Guidelines for Use of Remote Inspection Techniques for surveys

(1996)  
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## 1. General

### 1.1 Definitions

Remote inspection techniques may include the use of:

- Divers
- Unmanned robot arm
- Remote Operated Vehicles (ROV)
- Climbers
- Drones
- Other means acceptable to the Society.

1.2 When permitted remote inspection technique may be used to facilitate the required external and internal examinations, including close-up surveys and gauging.

The methods applied for remote inspection technique are to provide the survey results normally obtained for/by the Surveyor.

The results of the surveys by remote inspection techniques when being used towards the crediting of surveys are to be acceptable to the attending Surveyor. Inspections should be carried out in the presence of the Surveyor.

1.3 Confirmatory surveys/close-up surveys may be carried out by the Surveyor at selected locations to verify the results of the remote inspection technique.

Confirmatory thickness measurements may be requested by the attending Surveyor appropriately.

An inspection plan for the use of remote inspection technique(s), including any confirmatory survey/close-up survey/thickness measurements, is to be submitted for review and acceptance in advance of the survey.

## 2. Conditions

2.1 Use of remote inspection technique may be restricted or limited where there is a record or indication of abnormal deterioration or damage to structure or to items to be inspected.

The remote inspection technique may not be applicable if there are recommendations for repairs.

It may also be inapplicable if conditions, affecting the class of the vessel, are found during the course of the inspection.

If the remote inspection technique reveals damage or deterioration that requires attention, the Surveyor may require close-up survey/thickness measurements without the use of remote inspection technique to be undertaken.

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**3. Procedures**

3.1 The inspection is to be carried out by a qualified technician with adequate knowledge of the items to be inspected.

Prior to the commencement of surveys, a pre-meeting should be held between the technician(s), the owner's representative(s) and the attending Surveyor(s) for the purpose to ascertain that all the arrangements detailed in the inspection plan are in place, so as to ensure the safe and efficient conduct of the inspection work to be carried out.

3.2 Means of thickness gauging and non-destructive testing may be required in conjunction with the use of remote inspection technique.

3.3 Items to be examined using remote inspection technique are to be sufficiently clean to permit meaningful examination.

3.4 Visibility is to be sufficient to allow for a meaningful examination.

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