

RAPID RESPONSE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Operators of tankers, bulk carriers, gas carriers, containerships and tank barges transferring into ABS class will be offered complimentary enrollment into the Rapid Response Damage Assessment (RRDA) program for the first year. The normal charge for developing the electronic model of each vessel that is used for calculating damage stability will also be waived. The service extends your capacity for responding to emergency incidents effecting hull strength and stability.

In addition, those vessels that elect to enter the program will be offered the new ABS optional class notation "RRDA", which will provide evidence to port State authorities and other interested parties that the vessel meets the requirement for access to a shore-based, damage stability program.

MAINTAINING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

ABS is recognized by the majority of international flag States and has been delegated authority to act as a Recognized Organization on behalf of more than 120 governments issuing a range of internationally required certificates for SOLAS, MARPOL and the Load Line Convention on the flag Administration's behalf.

When a vessel transfers class to ABS from another IACS member, certain statutory certificates may remain valid. This varies depending on the flag Administration and circumstances. The ABS project team will work closely with the owner to ensure the statutory certificates are in order.

When transferring class, a change in flag may also be requested and new statutory certificates may be required. The new flag Administration will determine which certificates are needed. The ABS project team will coordinate with the new flag Administration to facilitate the process for the owner. When the exact requirements of the new flag have been determined, ABS will conduct the necessary reviews and surveys.



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