

Large Commercial & Private Yachts

Classification & Statutory Services



Our Mission

The mission of ABS is to serve the public interest as well as the needs of our clients by promoting the security of life, property and the natural environment primarily through the development and verification of standards for the design, construction and operational maintenance of marine-related facilities.

Quality & Environmental Policy

It is the policy of ABS to be responsive to the individual and collective needs of our clients as well as those of the public at large, to provide quality services in support of our mission, and to provide our services consistent with international standards developed to avoid, reduce or control pollution to the environment.

All of our client commitments, supporting actions, and services delivered must be recognized as expressions of Quality. We pledge to monitor our performance as an on-going activity and to strive for continuous improvement.

We commit to operate consistent with applicable environmental legislation and regulations and to provide a framework for establishing and reviewing environmental objectives and targets.



Classification & Statutory Services for Large Commercial & Private Yachts

ABS offers a comprehensive range of classification and related services to designers, builders, owners and operators of large commercial and private yachts. The principal elements of the ABS Yacht program are summarized in this handbook. More complete details can be obtained from an account representative at the nearest ABS office.

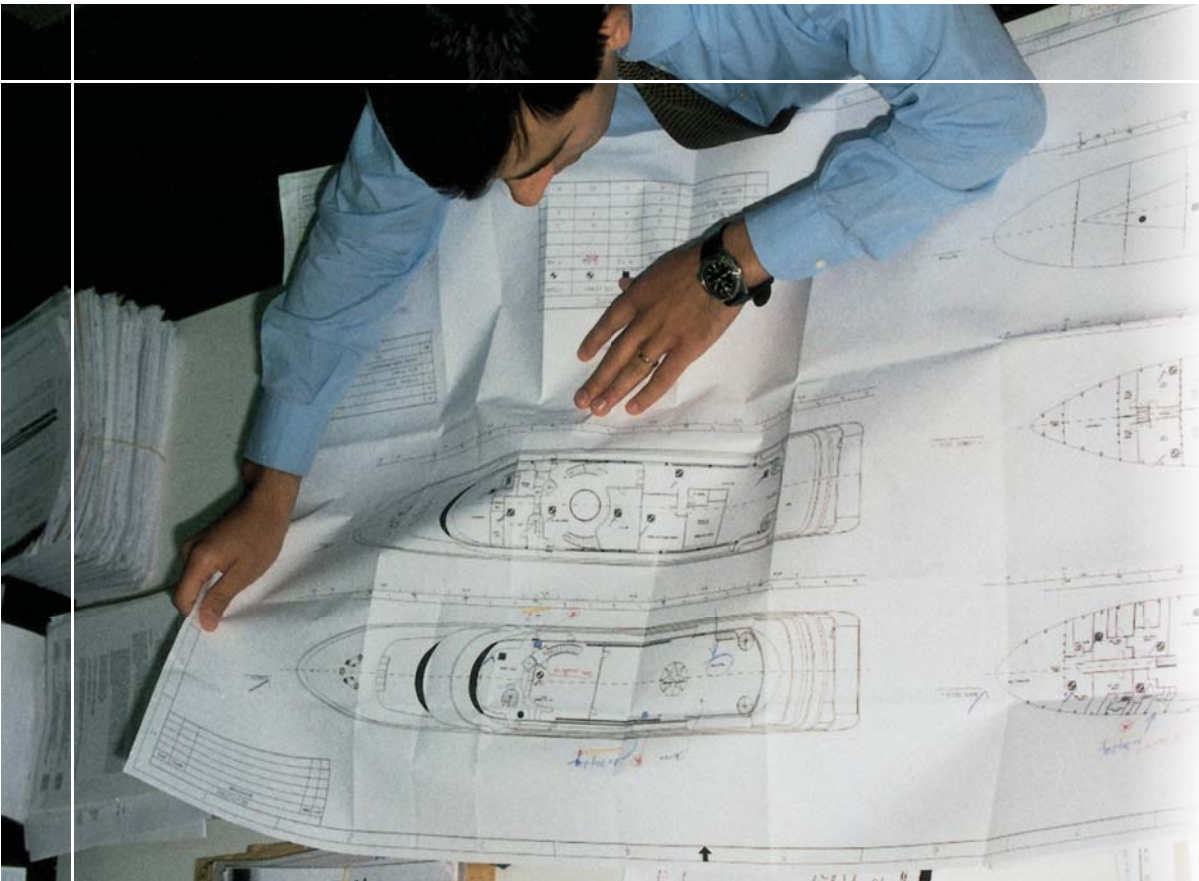
Introduction

As one of the leading class societies, ABS is able to provide a wealth of practical and technical experience throughout a yacht project. For new construction, ABS engineers and surveyors work closely with an owner's naval architect, the structural designer, the selected shipyard and the flag Administration to verify conformance with the ABS Rules and applicable regulatory standards.

After delivery of the vessel, a network of nearly 3,000 ABS engineers, surveyors and operational support staff are located around the world to service the ABS-classed fleet and deliver efficient, practical and responsive assistance.

ABS has a long history in yacht classification providing worldwide services to owners, designers and builders. Extensive experience and collaboration with designers, builders and regulators of this specialized industry sector have allowed ABS to provide services that assist commercial and private yacht owners to realize safety, structural and mechanical integrity, reliability and commercial benefits. As these specialized vessels have increased in size and complexity, ABS has expanded its services related to the design, construction and operation of high quality, luxury and high performance vessels required in the yacht sector today.





Large Yacht Classification: the ABS Advantage

The ABS experience, technology and services outlined in the following pages demonstrate our commitment to being the preferred provider of classification services to the marine industry and, in particular, to the large commercial and private yacht sectors.

Our Commitment

Our mission is to promote the security of life, property and the natural environment. We pursue this mission primarily through the development and verification of compliance with technical standards that encourage robust designs and the provision of solutions-oriented survey services. Vessels built and maintained to these standards may be accepted into and retained in class by ABS.

We are committed to providing superior technical and survey services that assist our clients in conforming to these standards, thereby encouraging safe, efficient operations.

Our Staff

Engineers and surveyors are located close to client operations around the world to support the ABS-classed fleet. ABS maintains engineering offices in Korea, Japan, China, Singapore, Greece, Italy, India, Brazil, the United Kingdom, the United States, Turkey and other centers to facilitate the design review of yachts on order to ABS class.

From the initial design, through construction, vessel registration and over the operational life of the vessel, ABS engineering and survey staff provide professional experience, information and guidance, facilitating successful yacht projects and yacht operations.

Our Fleet

ABS is one of the largest classification societies in terms of gross tonnage and number of vessels in class. The ABS fleet profile covers all principal vessel types with tankers and bulk carriers dominating. Nearly 20 percent of the world fleet of yachts over 24 m in length are classed by ABS. Of these, 80 percent of the yachts under construction to ABS class are commercial or commercial compliant. The ABS yacht fleet consists of all types of yachts from historical replicas to some of the fastest super yachts in the world.

Our Yacht Industry Leadership

ABS acknowledges that a challenging combination of engineering, innovation and creativity exists in yacht building for the owners and builders in terms of balancing the conflicting priorities of all involved parties throughout the design and construction process.

As a Recognized Organization for more than 120 flag States, ABS aims to provide proactive leadership in the quest for improved yacht safety by applying sound technical knowledge and extensive practical experience to the challenge of establishing standards for the design, construction and operation of large commercial and private yachts.

ABS is recognized by the leading flag Administrations involved in the registration of yachts including the Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Isle of Man, Italy, Luxembourg, Madeira, Malta, Marshall Islands, the UK (including the UK Red Ensign Administrations) and the US. ABS has received delegated authority for the application of the respective codes: Large Yacht Code (LY2), Italian Code (Regolamento di Sicurezza), Luxembourg Code, Madeira and many others which form the basis of yacht registration.

Our Fees

ABS services can be tailored to an owner's fleet profile and operational and management requirements. These approaches include Five Year Survey Fee packages as appropriate.





ABS Classification & Statutory Services

These services have been designed to assist an owner or shipbuilder to design, construct and deliver a large commercial or private yacht that conforms to the applicable ABS Rules. These services have also been developed to assist an owner or operator to maintain the vessel to ABS class requirements throughout its operational life by conducting periodic and damage surveys.

When ABS is authorized to act as a Recognized Organization by the flag State, these services also include the applicable statutory inspections.

Classification and statutory services comprise four parts:

1. Design Analysis, Plan Review and Approval
2. Surveys During Construction
3. Surveys After Delivery
4. Statutory Services

Design Analysis, Plan Review & Approval

The *ABS Guide for Building and Classing Motor Pleasure Yachts* provides the classification requirements for motor yachts greater than 24 m in length. The *ABS Guide for Building and Classing Offshore Racing Yachts* is applicable to offshore racing yachts up to 30.5 m in length. Various construction materials are addressed in the Guides including steel, aluminum alloy, fiber reinforced plastic and composite. For yachts more than 61 m in length, the Yacht Guides are used in conjunction with the *ABS Rules for Building and Classing Steel Vessels Under 90 meters in Length*.

Motor yachts are self-propelled craft used exclusively in recreational, non-cargo handling, non-governmental service and are classed **Yachting Service**. Sailing yachts have their main propulsion means by sail but invariably have auxiliary engine power. Where used exclusively for private pleasure, not used commercially and not carrying cargo, sailing yachts are also classed **Yachting Service**.

Motor yachts and sailing yachts that are chartered to carry passengers for revenue and are not considered by the flag Administration to be a passenger vessel; do not carry more than 12 charter guests; and do not carry cargo are required to be classed **Commercial Yachting Service**.

Plan Review

ABS provides responsive professional technical services to the designers, builders and owners of commercial and private yachts. These services are offered through a network of local engineering offices that have been strategically placed in the major shipowning and shipbuilding centers. Specially trained ABS engineering staff members are located in the principal yacht building nations of Italy, Turkey, the US, the UK, Greece, the Netherlands, Germany, China and Australia.

ABS believes in working as an integral part of the design and construction team, sharing knowledge and experience so that best practices are carried through to the next generation of yachts.

ABS Eagle Engineering Manager

ABS has implemented an advanced, secure, electronic engineering management system, ABS Eagle, which is used during the design and plan review process. Wherever possible, the shipyard and equipment manufacturers submit drawings in electronic format.

Paper drawings are scanned into the system and the reviews are handled on screen. For shipyards directly using the system, ABS Eagle Engineering Manager provides online, web-based interaction between the shipyard's design team and the ABS engineers undertaking plan review of the structure and machinery.

Teams of ABS specialists in different engineering disciplines can work on the design review simultaneously. When requested by the shipyard, the number and identity of the reviewing engineers can be restricted and their actions are fully traceable as part of the system's built-in security safeguards.

For each drawing or information package submitted, the status of comments can be viewed in real time by any of the involved parties, including the owner if so agreed in the contract between the owner and the shipbuilder. Compared to the traditional paper-based plan review process, the system offers faster overall review time and improves the lines of communication between ABS and the designers to quickly resolve questions or Rule interpretations.





Surveys During Construction

Drawing from its global network of experienced surveyors, ABS will assign appropriate survey personnel to each newbuilding commercial or private yacht project, wherever it is to be undertaken. These surveyors will verify that construction is in accordance with the Rules and approved plans. They will work closely with both the shipyard and the owner's technical representative to assist in reconciling questions of interpretation.

The surveyors will also attend and/or audit steel mills, aluminum manufacturing plants, equipment manufacturers and foundries producing castings and equipment to verify that these are produced to the specifications contained in the applicable ABS Rules.

Sea Trials

The ABS surveyor will attend the sea trials of the vessel to verify that the trials are carried out in accordance with the approved shipyard procedure and that relevant class and statutory requirements are met.

Class Notations

On delivery, a typical ABS class notation for yachts would be:

✱A1, Yachting Service, ✱AMS, (E)

✱A1, Commercial Yachting Service, ✱AMS, (E)

These notations indicate that the:

- material for hull construction is tested/certified in accordance with the applicable ABS Rules and Guides and that the construction of the hull is carried out under ABS survey (✱A1)
- ship's machinery and equipment have been constructed and installed in accordance with the requirements of the ABS Rules (✱AMS)
- ship complies with the ABS requirements for anchoring and mooring equipment (E)

Note: for private yachts smaller than 61 m in length, the Maltese Cross (✱) for AMS and (E) are optional notations.

Optional Class Notations

In addition, ABS offers owners a number of optional notations which demonstrate a yacht complies with higher safety, environmental and comfort standards. These additional notations are recognized in the market place as differentiators in vessel performance levels and value.

Design & Construction

- **ENVIRO** or **ENVIRO+** – yacht meets the applicable requirements of Annexes I, II, IV, V and VI of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, MARPOL 73/78, as amended and associated ABS requirements specified in the *Guide for the Environmental Protection Notation for Vessels*
- **HELIDK** or **HELIDK(SRF)** – yacht with a helicopter deck intended for landing with or without a facility for storage and/or refueling that complies with the *ABS Guide for the Class Notation Helicopter Decks and Facilities*
- **Ice Class A0**, **Ice Class A1** or **Ice Class 1A** – yacht complies with the ABS Rules for ice strengthening of ships navigating in first-year or multi-year ice or complies with the Finnish-Swedish Rules for navigating in the Northern Baltic in winter, respectively



Operational Safety

- **ABCU** – yacht is a self-propelled vessel which is fitted with the required automation and remote monitoring and control systems to enable the propulsion machinery space to be periodically unattended and the propulsion control to be affected primarily from the navigation bridge
- **ACC** – yacht has the means to control and monitor the propulsion machinery space from a continuously manned centralized control and monitoring station installed within or adjacent to the propulsion machinery space
- **ACCU** – yacht has the means to control and monitor an unmanned propulsion machinery space in an approved manner from the navigation bridge and from a centralized control and monitoring station installed in or adjacent to the propulsion machinery space
- **COMF(Y)** or **COMF+(Y)** – yacht complies with the criteria for owner and guest accommodations and the ambient environment (i.e., vibration, noise, indoor climate and lighting) in accordance with the requirements of the *ABS Guide for the Class Notation Comfort – Yacht (COMF(Y))* and *Comfort Plus – Yacht (COMF+(Y))*.
- **GP** – yacht meets the requirements specified in the *ABS Guide for the Class Notation Green Passport*
- **HAB** or **HAB+** – yacht complies with the criteria for crew accommodations and the ambient environment in accordance with the requirements of the *ABS Guide for Crew Habitability on Ships*
- **NBL**, **NBLES** or **NIBS** – yacht complies with the relevant section of the *ABS Guide for Bridge Design and Navigational Equipment/Systems*

Ship Management

- **HSQE**, **SHQ**, **SHE**, **HS**, **SQE**, **SQ**, **SE** or **S** – yacht complies with relevant criteria for health, safety, quality and/or environment management systems in the *ABS Guide for Marine Health, Safety, Quality and Environmental Management*
- **SEC** – yacht complies with the *ABS Guide for Ship Security (SEC) Notation*

Maintenance

- **UWILD** – yacht meets the ABS requirements as specified in the *Guide for Class Notation Underwater Inspection in Lieu of Drydocking*





Surveys After Delivery

Upon delivery and throughout its service life, an ABS-classed yacht is subject to a series of periodic surveys – Annual, Intermediate, Special and Docking – on a rotating five year basis.

Owners are also required to notify ABS when the vessel and/or its machinery suffer damage. An ABS surveyor will arrange to attend the vessel as promptly as possible and will verify that it remains in, or is returned to, a condition that is in conformance with the applicable Rules.

Prompt attendance by an ABS surveyor for the requisite periodic survey is made possible by the extensive, global network of strategically placed ABS survey offices.

ABS Eagle Survey Manager

To help the vessel's owner, operator or manager plan for the required periodic surveys in an efficient, cost-effective and informed manner, ABS provides the operator with access to the advanced, web-based ABS Eagle Survey Manager program.

The ABS Eagle system has been in use for several years (formerly under the ABS SafeNet name) and has been subject to frequent enhancement and expansion. Positive user feedback gives us the confidence to consider the ABS Eagle Survey Manager system to be the most advanced, useful and easy-to-use system currently available to ship operators to monitor the classification status of their vessels.

ABS Eagle Survey Manager efficiently manages the class and statutory data for an owner's entire ABS-classed fleet in a web-based format. Shipowners have access to the data from multiple locations – in the office, on board a vessel or from remote sites such as a repair yard.

ABS Eagle Survey Manager includes historical records of survey dates, locations and surveys carried out; a record of outstanding recommendations, both open and closed; and a system to integrate survey activities and review the status with the planned maintenance module.

Shipowners are able to select the interval to receive messages regarding upcoming and overdue surveys. Multicolored timelines of survey due dates significantly diminish the need to view individual listings of survey items such as hull, machinery and equipment.



ABS Eagle Survey Manager provides a wide range of informational and support services to the operator in real time from an office or on board the vessel. Services include:

- a fleet summary and complete status of class surveys for each ABS-classed vessel
- status of statutory surveys and certificates issued by ABS on behalf of the flag Administration
- timeline presentations of the class and statutory surveys completed in the previous three years, surveys in progress and surveys scheduled for the next five years including identification of grace periods
- principal particulars of each vessel
- vessel attendance history with links to related ABS reports
- an online certificate list and file containing copies of ABS-issued class and statutory certificates currently on board the vessel
- fleet level tools for budgeting within user-defined periods (such as drydockings)
- status indication of surveys completed, often before the surveyor leaves the ship
- automated on board issuance of class and statutory certificates
- an owner administration module to enable the creation of an unlimited number of new users with the ability to limit the fleet information that each individual user can view
- tools for survey planning and survey guidance including vessel-specific templates for the preparation of enhanced survey plans
- electronic booking of survey attendance and optional email progress notifications

Port State Control

ABS considers the Port State Control (PSC) record of vessels detained for class and/or Recognized Organization related deficiencies within the three principal PSC jurisdictions (Paris MOU, Tokyo MOU and the USCG) to be the best public accounting of the effectiveness of the ABS in-service surveys.

For many years ABS has consistently been placed among the elite tier of classification societies in each of these jurisdictions with, on average, more than 99.5 percent of ABS-classed ships subject to a port State inspection being found to be without class and/or Recognized Organization accountable detainable deficiencies.

Statutory Services

ABS is recognized by the leading international flag States and is authorized to act as a Recognized Organization on behalf of more than 120 governments. ABS carries out these responsibilities during the design stage, verifying that the design of private and commercial yachts complies with the statutory requirements of the flag Administration.

ABS has been delegated authority by flag Administrations to calculate, review and survey the following statutory requirements and issue the appropriate flag Administration certificates including:

- Tonnage Certificate
- Load Line Certificate
- International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate
- SOPEP Manual approval

ABS currently has delegated authority to issue Statement of Fact certificates for registration as a commercial yacht under flags including the Bahamas, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Isle of Man, Italy, Luxembourg, Madeira, Malta, Marshall Islands and the UK to the applicable requirements: Large Yacht Code (LY2), Italian Code (Regolamento di Sicurezza), Luxembourg Code, Madeira Code and Malta Code.

In addition, partial declarations of compliance with the safety construction, fire safety (as applicable), pollution prevention or other aspects of the flag Administration Commercial Yacht Code are delegated to ABS so that the flag Administration can issue on the basis of these declarations a Certificate of Compliance with the Code or applicable statutory instrument.



ISM Code Compliance

As a Recognized Organization, ABS is authorized to act on behalf of flag States in performing audits and issuing certificates required by the International Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention (the International Safety Management – ISM Code). These include both the audits of the ship operator leading to the Document of Compliance (DOC) certificate and the audit of the ship which, when successfully completed, will result in the issuance of the Safety Management Certificate (SMC) to that ship. ABS maintains a global pool of fully qualified ISM auditors able to respond promptly to client needs.

ISPS Code Compliance

A large number of flag States have authorized ABS to act on their behalf as a Recognized Security Organization. In this capacity ABS can approve security plans, perform security audits of ships and issue International Ship Security Certificates (ISSC) on behalf of those flag States. The *ABS Guide for Ship Security (SEC) Notation* has been made available to assist operators in achieving compliance with the statutory security requirements of the International Ship and Port Facilities Security (ISPS) Code and in obtaining the ABS **SEC** notation. ABS has qualified ISPS auditors available worldwide.

Information Services

It is important for owners to stay informed of the constant flow of new regulatory and classification requirements. Through its participation in IMO as either a member of the IACS delegation or the US delegation, ABS is able to provide its owners with in-depth coverage and insight into these changes. Frequent regulatory updates are also posted to the ABS website and ABS owners receive a variety of informational newsletters and publications designed to assist their understanding of the issues. ABS Rules and current regulatory information can also be accessed on the ABS website at anytime.







ABS WORLD HEADQUARTERS

ABS Plaza

16855 Northchase Drive • Houston, TX 77060 USA

Tel: 1-281-877-5800 • Fax: 1-281-877-5803

Email: abs-worldhq@eagle.org

ABS EUROPE DIVISION

ABS House

No. 1 Frying Pan Alley • London E1 7HR, UK

Tel: 44-20-7247-3255 • Fax: 44-20-7377-2453

Email: abs-eur@eagle.org

ABS PACIFIC DIVISION

438 Alexandra Road #10-00 • Alexandra Point

Singapore 119958 • Republic of Singapore

Tel: 65-6276-8700 • Fax: 65-6276-8711

Email: abs-pac@eagle.org

ABS AMERICAS DIVISION

ABS Plaza

16855 Northchase Drive • Houston, TX 77060 USA

Tel: 1-281-877-6000 • Fax: 1-281-877-6001

Email: abs-amer@eagle.org

Website

www.eagle.org