



RULES FOR BUILDING AND CLASSING

**MOBILE OFFSHORE UNITS
2018**

**NOTICES AND
GENERAL INFORMATION**

**American Bureau of Shipping
Incorporated by Act of Legislature of
the State of New York 1862**

**© 2017 American Bureau of Shipping. All rights reserved.
1701 City Plaza Drive
Spring, TX 77389 USA**

Notices and General Information

CONTENTS

Introduction	1
TABLE 1 Applicable Editions of Booklets Comprising 2018 Rules	2
TABLE 2 Division and Numbering of Rules.....	2

Notices and General Information

Introduction

1. ABS Rules and Guides are developed and updated to keep pace with the offshore industry. This has resulted in a complex library of Rules and Guides. Many requirements are repeated throughout the ABS Rules and Guides making use and maintenance of Rules/Guides more challenging. To address the duplication of requirements and to provide a set of Rules that is easier to navigate, ABS is consolidating Rules for both Vessels and Offshore Units.

For offshore units, the *Rules for Building and Classing Mobile Offshore Drilling Units* and the *Guide for Building and Classing Mobile Offshore Units* are being consolidated into the **Rules for Building and Classing Mobile Offshore Units** (the *Mobile Offshore Unit Rules*).

For the period from 1 January 2018 to 1 January 2020, designers can choose to use the Mobile Offshore Unit Rules or the applicable MODU Rules or MOU Guide. On 1 January 2020 the MODU Rules and MOU Guide will be withdrawn and only the Mobile Offshore Unit Rules will remain for the design of offshore units.

2. The year 2018 edition of the *Rules for Building and Classing Mobile Offshore Units* consists of the ten (10) booklets as shown in Table 1.

The purpose of the generic title *ABS Rules for Conditions of Classification – Offshore Units and Structures (Part 1)* is to reflect the expanded contents of PART 1, as a result of including consolidated requirements for “Classification” applicable to all types of offshore units, pipelines, risers, and other offshore structures, as specified in the Foreword to Part 1. The supplemental requirements previously contained in individual Rules and Guides have been consolidated into Chapters of Part 1.

With regard to Part 2, the purpose of the generic title *ABS Rules for Materials and Welding* is to emphasize the common applicability of the requirements to ABS-classed vessels, other marine structures and their associated machinery, and thereby make PART 2 more readily a common “PART” of various ABS Rules and Guides, as appropriate. The Rules for steel, aluminum, and FRP materials have been consolidated into a single Part 2.

Part 8 is a new Part that covers additional requirements for each type of unit (Drilling and Non-drilling Units). The requirements for drilling units have been relocated from Parts 3 through 6 of the *MODU Rules*. The requirements for non-drilling units are based on the *MOU Guide*.

3. The numbering system applied in the Rules is shown in Table 2.
4. Until the next edition of the *Rules for Building and Classing Mobile Offshore Units* is published, Rule Change Notices and/or Corrigenda, as necessary, will be published on the ABS website – www.eagle.org – only, and will be available free for downloading. It is not intended to publish hard copies of future Rule Change Notices and/or Corrigenda to existing Rules or Guides. The consolidated edition of the *Rules for Building and Classing Mobile Offshore Units*, which includes Rule Change Notices and/or Corrigenda using different colors for easy recognition will be published on the ABS website only when RCN and/or Corrigenda are issued.
5. The listing of CLASSIFICATION SYMBOLS AND NOTATIONS is available from the ABS website www.eagle.org for download.

TABLE 1
Applicable Editions of Booklets Comprising 2018 Rules

Notices and General Information		2018
Part 1:	Rules for Conditions of Classification – Offshore Units and Structures ⁽¹⁾	2018 ⁽²⁾
Part 1:	Conditions of Classification (Supplement to the ABS <i>Rules for Conditions of Classification – Offshore Units and Structures</i>) ⁽¹⁾	2018
Part 2:	Rules for Materials and Welding	2018 ⁽²⁾
Part 3:	Hull Construction and Equipment	2018
Part 4:	Machinery and Systems	2018
Part 5:	Fire and Safety – Measures and Features	2018
Part 6:	Rules for Equipment and Machinery Certification	2018
Part 7:	Surveys	2018
Part 8:	Specific Unit Types	2018
	Chapter 1 Mobile Offshore Units	
	Chapter 2 Drilling Units	
	Chapter 3 Accommodation Units	
	Chapter 4 Crane Units	
	Chapter 5 Construction and Maintenance Units	
	Chapter 6 Drilling Tenders	
	Chapter 7 Pipe and Cable Laying Units	
	Chapter 8 Wind Turbine Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Units	

Notes:

- 1 The requirements for conditions of classification are contained in the separate, generic ABS *Rules for Conditions of Classification – Offshore Units and Structures (Part 1)*. Additional specific requirements are contained in Part 1 of these Rules.
- 2 The latest edition of these Rules is to be referred to. These Rules may be downloaded from the ABS website at www.eagle.org, Rules and Guides, Downloads or may be ordered separately from the ABS Publications online catalog at www.eagle.org, Rules and Guides, Catalog.

TABLE 2
Division and Numbering of Rules

<i>Division</i>	<i>Number</i>
Part	Part 1
Chapter	Part 1, Chapter 1
Section	Section 1-1-1
Subsection (see Note 1)	1-1-1/1
Paragraph (see Note 1)	1-1-1/1.1
Subparagraph	1-1-1/1.1.1
Item	1-1-1/1.1.1(a)
Subitem	1-1-1/1.1.1(a)i
Appendix	Appendix 1-1-A1 or Appendix 1-A1-1

Note:

- 1 An odd number (1, 3, 5, etc.) numbering system is used for the Rules. The purpose is to permit future insertions of even-numbered paragraphs (2, 4, 6, etc.) of text and to avoid the necessity of having to renumber the existing text and associated cross-references, as applicable, within the Rules and associated process instructions, check sheets, etc.