

Rules for Building and Classing

Offshore Units

Notices and General Information



July 2025



RULES FOR BUILDING AND CLASSING

OFFSHORE UNITS JULY 2025

NOTICES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

**American Bureau of Shipping
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Notices and General Information

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Notices and General Information

Introduction

1. The ABS *Rules for Building and Classing Offshore Units (Offshore Rules)*, are introduced in January 2025 to:
 - Enable verification of new technologies using a goal-based standards approach
 - Reduce duplication of requirements and provide a set of Rules and Guides that are easier to navigate based on the unit's hull type and primary function by codifying (detailing) generic mandatory classification requirements in Parts 3 through 8
 - Differentiate mandatory requirements from those associated with optional notations

Building on the ABS *Rules for Building Classing Mobile Offshore Units*, this Rule set combines and supersedes the following Rules and Guides:

- *Rules for Building and Classing Mobile Offshore Units (MOU Rules)*
- *Rules for Building and Classing Floating Production Installations (FPI Rules)*
- *Rules for Building and Classing Offshore Installations (Offshore Installation Rules)*
- *Rules for Building and Classing Facilities on Offshore Installations (Facilities Rules)* (mandatory requirements only)
- *Guide for Building and Classing Drillships (Drillship Guide)*

The optional requirements in the *Facilities Rules* are now contained in the *Guide for Hydrocarbon Production Facilities on Offshore Units (Facilities Guide)*.

Part 9 is a new Part that covers requirements for optional notations that were previously offered in individual Rule sets prior to the consolidation of the *Offshore Rules*. Most of the notations in this Part are associated with the overall service function of the offshore unit.

2. The 2025 edition of the *Rules for Building and Classing Offshore Units* consists of the Parts as shown in Table 1. Reference is made in these Rules to the following generic Rules:
 - a) *Rules for Conditions of Classification – Offshore Units (Part 1B)* includes consolidated requirements for “Classification” applicable to all types of offshore units, pipelines, risers, and other offshore structures, as specified in the Foreword to Part 1B.
 - b) *Rules for Alternative Arrangements, Novel Concepts and New Technologies (Part 1D)* introduces a procedure for acceptance of alternative arrangements, novel concepts, and new technologies based on Goals and Functional Requirements, including a consolidated list of Tier 1 Goals.
 - c) *Rules for Materials and Welding (Part 2)* contains materials requirements common to ABS-classed vessels, other marine structures and their associated machinery, including steel, aluminum, and FRP materials.
3. The numbering system applied in the Rules is shown in Table 2.
4. A mapping of the sections of the current Rules and Guides vs. the new *Offshore Rules* is listed in Table 3.
5. The primary changes from the January 2025 Rules are identified and listed in Table 4. The effective date of the indicated Rule Changes is 1 July 2025, unless specifically indicated otherwise.

For certain changes that have a major impact on shipyards, designers and vendors, ABS has instituted a two-year Rule cycle to give the industry more time to prepare for these changes. The text of these changes will appear in a box along with the effective date just under the existing Rule requirement.

TABLE 1
Applicable Editions of Parts Comprising July 2025 Offshore Rules

Notices and General Information		July 2025
Part 1B:	Rules for Conditions of Classification – Offshore Units	July 2025
Part 1D:	Rules for Alternative Arrangements, Novel Concepts and New Technologies	January 2024
Part 2:	Rules for Materials and Welding	July 2025
Part 3A:	Hull Structure – Mobile Offshore Units	July 2025
Part 3B:	Hull Structure – Site-Specific Ship-Type Floating Installations	July 2025
Part 3C:	Hull Structure – Other Site-Specific Floating Installations	January 2025
Part 3D:	Hull Structure – Fixed Offshore Installations	January 2025
Part 4:	Machinery and Systems	July 2025
Part 5:	Fire and Safety – Measures and Features	January 2025
Part 6:	Equipment and Machinery Certification	January 2025
Part 7A:	Surveys – Mobile Offshore Units	July 2025
Part 7B:	Surveys – Site-Specific Floating Installations	July 2025
Part 7C:	Surveys – Fixed Offshore Installations	July 2025
Part 8:	Unit Functions Chapter 1 Introduction 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 Chapter 9 Well Intervention Chapter 10 Well Stimulation Units Chapter 11 Units Fitted with Well Test Facilities Chapter 12 Hydrocarbon Production, Storage, and Offloading Units Chapter 13 Offshore Substations and Electrical Service Chapter 14 Liquefied Gas Terminals Chapter 15 Mining Chapter 16 Power Services Chapter 17 Spaceports Appendix 1 Stability Criteria for Counter-Ballasted Crane Units	January 2025

Part 9:	Requirements for Optional Notations	January 2025
	Chapter 1 Introduction	
	Chapter 2 Drilling Systems	
	Chapter 3 Hydrocarbon Production and Process Systems	
	Chapter 4 Import and Export Systems	
	Chapter 5 Gas Processing, Gas Liquefaction, Transfer, and Regasification Systems	
	Chapter 6 Power Plant	
	Chapter 7 Offshore Substations	
	Chapter 8 Subsea Mining	
	Chapter 9 Brazilian Regulatory Compliance	
	Chapter 10 Modules on Deck	
	Chapter 11 Service Life Enhancement	

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.

TABLE 3
Mapping of Sections of the 2024 Rules and Guides vs. 2025 Offshore Rules

2024 Rule or Guide	2024 Section	Title	Offshore Rules or Facilities Guide Section
Rules for Building and Classing Mobile Offshore Units			
MOU Rules	3-1-1	Definitions	3A-1-1
MOU Rules	3-1-2	Plans and Design Data to be Submitted	3A-1-2
MOU Rules	3-1-3	Environmental Loadings	3A-1-3
MOU Rules	3-1-4	Material Selection	3A-1-4
MOU Rules	3-1-A1	Shallow Water Wave Theory	3A-1-A1
MOU Rules	3-1-A2	Wave Theory for Deep Water	3A-1-A2
MOU Rules	3-2-1	Structural Analysis	3A-2-1
MOU Rules	3-2-2	Common Structures	3A-2-2
MOU Rules	3-2-3	Self-Elevating Units	3A-2-3
MOU Rules	3-2-4	Column-Stabilized Units	3A-2-4
MOU Rules	3-2-5	Surface-Type Units	3A-2-5
MOU Rules	3-2-6	Welding, Forming and Weld Design - Weld Design	3A-2-6
MOU Rules	3-2-A1	Strengthening of Mobile Offshore Units for Navigation in Ice	3A-2-A1
MOU Rules	3-2-A2	Response Analysis - Selecting Design Waves for Structural Analysis of Column-Stabilized Units (Twin-Hull Semi-Submersible)	3A-2-A2
MOU Rules	3-2-A3	Guide for the Allowable Stresses for Localized Highly-Stressed Areas	3A-2-A3
MOU Rules	3-3-1	General	3A-3-1
MOU Rules	3-3-2	Stability and Watertight/Weathertight Integrity	3A-3-2
MOU Rules	3-3-A1	Application of Dynamic Response Based Intact Stability Criteria for Column-Stabilized Mobile Offshore Units	3A-3-A1
MOU Rules	3-3-A1a	Sample Calculations	3A-3-A2
MOU Rules	3-3-A1b	Direct Analysis of Dynamic Motion Responses	3A-3-A3
MOU Rules	3-3-A1c	Environmental Conditions and Representations	3A-3-A4
MOU Rules	3-3-A2	Computer Software for Onboard Stability Calculations	3A-3-A5
MOU Rules	3-4-1	Mooring Systems and Equipment	3A-4-1
MOU Rules	4-1-1	General	4-1-1
MOU Rules	4-1-2	Machinery and Equipment	4-1-2
MOU Rules	4-2-1	General	4-2-1
MOU Rules	4-2-2	Pumps, Pipes, Valves, and Fittings	4-2-2
MOU Rules	4-2-3	Tank Vents, Overflows and Sounding	4-2-3
MOU Rules	4-2-4	Bilge and Ballast Systems and Tanks	4-2-4
MOU Rules	4-2-5	Fuel Oil Systems and Tanks	4-2-5
MOU Rules	4-2-6	Other Piping Systems and Tanks	4-2-6
MOU Rules	4-3-1	General	4-3-1
MOU Rules	4-3-2	Electrical Systems	4-3-2
MOU Rules	4-3-3	Onboard Installation	4-3-3
MOU Rules	4-3-4	Machinery and Equipment	4-3-4
MOU Rules	4-3-5	Specialized Installations	4-3-5
MOU Rules	4-3-6	Hazardous Areas	4-3-6
MOU Rules	5-1-1	General	5-1-1
MOU Rules	5-2-1	General	5-2-1
MOU Rules	5-2-2	Fixed Fire Fighting Systems	5-2-2
MOU Rules	5-2-3	Additional Fixed Fire Fighting Systems	5-2-3
MOU Rules	5-2-4	Portable Fire Fighting Systems	5-2-4
MOU Rules	5-2-5	Fire and Gas Detection	5-2-5
MOU Rules	5-3-1	General	5-3-1
MOU Rules	5-3-A1	Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP) Gratings	5-3-A1
MOU Rules	5-3-A2	Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP) Guard Railings	5-3-A2
MOU Rules	6-1-1	General	6-1-1

2024 Rule or Guide	2024 Section	Title	Offshore Rules or Facilities Guide Section
MOU Rules	6-1-2	Hull Structure and Outfitting	6-1-2
MOU Rules	6-1-3	Prime Movers	6-1-3
MOU Rules	6-1-4	Propulsion and Maneuvering Systems	6-1-4
MOU Rules	6-1-5	Boilers, Pressure Vessels and Fired Equipment	6-1-5
MOU Rules	6-1-6	Piping Systems	6-1-6
MOU Rules	6-1-7	Electrical Systems and Control Equipment.	6-1-7
MOU Rules	6-1-8	Fire and Safety - Equipment and Systems	6-1-8
MOU Rules	6-1-9	Jacking and Associated Systems	6-1-9
MOU Rules	6-1-10	Mooring Systems and Equipment	6-1-10
MOU Rules	7-1-1	General	7A-1-1
MOU Rules	7-1-2	Surveys at Builder's Yard - Hull Structure and Outfitting	7A-1-2
MOU Rules	7-1-3	Surveys at Builder's Yard - Machinery, Piping, Pressure Vessels, and Outfitting	7A-1-3
MOU Rules	7-1-4	Surveys at Builder's Yard - Mechanical and Piping Systems	7A-1-4
MOU Rules	7-1-5	Surveys at Builder's Yard - Electrical Cables and Equipment	7A-1-5
MOU Rules	7-1-6	Surveys at Builder's Yard - Electrical Systems	7A-1-6
MOU Rules	7-1-7	Surveys at Builder's Yard - Hazardous Areas	7A-1-7
MOU Rules	7-1-8	Surveys at Builder's Yard - Fire and Safety	7A-1-8
MOU Rules	7-1-9	Surveys at Builder's Yard - Sea Trials	7A-1-9
MOU Rules	7-1-A1	Mooring Systems and Equipment	6-1-10
MOU Rules	7-1-A2	Surveys of Computers for Stability Calculations	7A-1-A1
MOU Rules	7-2-1	Conditions for Surveys After Construction	7A-2-1
MOU Rules	7-2-2	Survey Intervals	7A-2-2
MOU Rules	7-2-3	Survey Pre-Planning	7A-2-3
MOU Rules	7-2-4	Annual Surveys	7A-2-4
MOU Rules	7-2-5	Special Periodical Surveys	7A-2-5
MOU Rules	7-2-6	Drydocking Surveys or Equivalent	7A-2-6
MOU Rules	7-2-7	Specific Survey on Self-Elevating Units After Ocean Transit Tow	7A-2-7
MOU Rules	7-2-8	Tail Shaft Surveys	7A-2-8
MOU Rules	7-2-9	Boiler Surveys	7A-2-9
MOU Rules	7-2-10	Automatic and Remote-control Systems	7A-2-10
MOU Rules	7-2-11	Crew Habitability	7A-2-11
MOU Rules	7-2-12	Lifting Appliances	7A-2-12
MOU Rules	7-2-A1	Lay-up and Reactivation of Laid-up Mobile Offshore Units	7A-2-A1
MOU Rules	7-2-A2	Survey of Portable Modules	7A-2-A2
MOU Rules	7-2-A3	Modification of a Self-Elevating Unit to Become Site-Specific Fixed Offshore Installation	7A-2-A3
MOU Rules	7-2-A4	Surveys Based on Preventative Maintenance Techniques	7A-2-A4
MOU Rules	7-2-A5	Specific Survey After Severe Weather Event	7A-2-A5
MOU Rules	7-3-1	Offshore Substation Systems	7B-4-3
MOU Rules	8-1-1	Mobile Offshore Units - General	8-1-1 & 3C-1-3/21
MOU Rules	8-2-1	Drilling Units - General	8-2-1
MOU Rules	8-3-1	Accommodation Units - General	8-3-1
MOU Rules	8-4-1	Crane Units - General	8-4-1
MOU Rules	8-5-1	Construction and Maintenance Units - General	8-5-1
MOU Rules	8-6-1	Drilling Tenders - General	8-6-1
MOU Rules	8-7-1	Pipe and Cable Laying Units - General	8-7-1
MOU Rules	8-8-1	Wind Turbine Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Units General	8-8-1
MOU Rules	8-9-1	Well Intervention - General	8-9-1
MOU Rules	8-10-1	Well Stimulation Units - General	8-10-1
MOU Rules	8-11-1	Units Fitted with Well Test Facilities - General	8-11-1
MOU Rules	8-A1-1	Stability Criteria for Counter-Ballasted Crane Units	8-A1-1

2024 Rule or Guide	2024 Section	Title	Offshore Rules or Facilities Guide Section
Rules for Building and Classing Floating Production Installations			
FPI Rules	1-1-1	Classification	1B-3-1
FPI Rules	1-1-2	System Classification, Symbols and Notations	1B-3-2 9-9-1
FPI Rules	1-1-3	Rules and Criteria	1B-1-4
FPI Rules	1-1-4	Submission of Plans, Data and Calculations	3B-1-2
FPI Rules	3-1-1	Basic Configurations	1B-3-2/3.7
FPI Rules	3-1-2	Installation	3B-1-1/3 3C-1-1/2
FPI Rules	3-1-3	Production Facilities	Deleted
FPI Rules	3-1-4	Position Mooring System	3B-1-1/5
FPI Rules	3-1-5	Subsea System	9-4-1/3
FPI Rules	3-2-1	General Design Basis	3B-1-2/1
FPI Rules	3-2-2	Design Documentation	3B-1-2/3
FPI Rules	3-2-3	Design Conditions	3B-1-2/5
FPI Rules	3-2-4	Environmental Conditions	3B-1-2/7
FPI Rules	3-3-1	All Installations	3B-1-3
FPI Rules	3-3-A1	Offshore Hull Construction Monitoring Program	3B-1-A1
FPI Rules	3-4-1	Installation, Hookup, and Commissioning - General	3B-1-4 9-4-4
FPI Rules	3-4-2	Hook-up Procedures Submittal	3B-1-4/5
FPI Rules	3-4-3	Start-up and Commissioning Procedures Submittal	3B-1-4/7
FPI Rules	3-4-4	Surveys During Installation, Hook-up and Commissioning	7B-2-1/2
FPI Rules	3-A1-1	Abbreviations	Deleted
FPI Rules	3-A1-2	References	1B-1-A1
FPI Rules	4-1-1	General	8-12-1
FPI Rules	4-1-2	Scope	Deleted
FPI Rules	4-1-3	Installations	3C-1-1/3
FPI Rules	4-1-4	Subsea Equipment	Facilities Guide 3-3/21.5
FPI Rules	4-1-5	Other Codes and Standards	Deleted
FPI Rules	4-1-6	Non-Standard Equipment	Facilities Guide 4-2/7.25
FPI Rules	4-1-7	Design and Construction	Facilities Guide 3-3/1.5
FPI Rules	4-1-8	Process System	Facilities Guide Chapter 3
FPI Rules	4-1-9	Hazardous Area Classification	Facilities Guide 3-6/15 8-12-3/3
FPI Rules	4-1-10	Fire Protection	Facilities Guide 3-8
FPI Rules	4-1-11	Fabrication and Testing	Facilities Guide 1-6/Table 1 Facilities Guide 5-1/Table 1
FPI Rules	4-2-1	General	9-4-1/5
FPI Rules	4-2-2	Submission of Plans and Design Data	9-4-2
FPI Rules	4-2-3	Environmental Considerations	Deleted
FPI Rules	4-2-4	System Design and Analysis	9-4-3
FPI Rules	4-2-5	Materials	Deleted
FPI Rules	5A-1-1	General	3B-2-1
FPI Rules	5A-1-2	Longitudinal Strength	3B-2-2
FPI Rules	5A-1-3	Structural Design and Analysis of the Hull	3B-2-3
FPI Rules	5A-1-4	Design and Analysis of Other Major Hull Structural Features	3B-2-4
FPI Rules	5A-1-5	Modules on Deck	9-10-1
FPI Rules	5A-1-6	Other Systems	Deleted
FPI Rules	5A-1-7	Service Life Enhancement Notation	9-11-1
FPI Rules	5A-2-1	General	3B-3-1 7B-1-2/5
FPI Rules	5A-2-2	Steel Renewal Assessment	3B-3-2
FPI Rules	5A-2-3	Fatigue Consideration (Remaining Fatigue Life)	3B-3-3
FPI Rules	5A-2-A1	Buckling Strength of Longitudinal Members Applied to Reassessed Scantling Determination (See 5A-2-2/Figure 1)	3B-3-A1

2024 Rule or Guide	2024 Section	Title	Offshore Rules or Facilities Guide Section
FPI Rules	5A-3-1	General	3B-4-1
FPI Rules	5A-3-2	Loads	3B-4-2
FPI Rules	5A-3-3	Initial Scantling Evaluation	3B-4-3
FPI Rules	5A-3-4	Total Strength Assessment	3B-4-4
FPI Rules	5A-3-5	Hull Structure Beyond 0.4L Amidships	3B-4-5
FPI Rules	5A-3-6	Application to Single Hull Ship-Type Installations	3B-4-6
FPI Rules	5A-3-A1	Determination of Environmental Severity Factors	3B-4-A1
FPI Rules	5A-3-A2	Fatigue Strength Assessment of Ship-Type Installations	3B-4-A2
FPI Rules	5A-3-A3	Hull Girder Ultimate Strength Assessment	3B-4-A3
FPI Rules	5A-3-A4	Finite Element Analysis for Ship-Type Installations	3B-4-A4
FPI Rules	5A-3-A5	Design and Assessment of Large Bilge Keel Structures	3B-4-A5
FPI Rules	5A-4-1	Introduction	3B-5-1
FPI Rules	5A-4-2	Hull Structure	3B-5-2
FPI Rules	5A-4-3	Cargo Oil and Associated Systems	Deleted
FPI Rules	5A-4-A1	Hull Girder Shear Strength for Ship-Type Installations	3B-5-A1
FPI Rules	5B-1-1	General Requirements	3C-2-1
FPI Rules	5B-1-2	Structures	3C-2-2
FPI Rules	5B-1-3	Stability	3C-2-3
FPI Rules	5B-1-4	Machinery and Systems	Part 4
FPI Rules	5B-2-1	General Requirements	3C-3-1
FPI Rules	5B-2-2	Stability	3C-3-2
FPI Rules	5B-2-3	Hull and Primary Structures	3C-3-3
FPI Rules	5B-2-4	Other Structures	3C-3-4
FPI Rules	5B-2-5	Materials and Welding	3C-3-5
FPI Rules	5B-2-6	Machinery and Systems	Part 4
FPI Rules	5B-3-1	General Requirements	3C-4-1
FPI Rules	5B-3-2	Stability	3C-4-2
FPI Rules	5B-3-3	Hull and Primary Structures	3C-4-3
FPI Rules	5B-3-4	Other Structures	3C-4-4
FPI Rules	5B-3-5	Materials and Welding	3C-4-5
FPI Rules	5B-3-6	Machinery and Systems	Part 4
FPI Rules	5B-A1-1	Wave Impact Criteria	3C-A1-1
FPI Rules	6-1-1	Mooring System	3B-7-1/3
FPI Rules	6-1-2	Anchor Holding Power	3B-7-2
FPI Rules	7-1-1/1	General	7B-2-1/2
FPI Rules	7-1-1/3	Surveys During Construction or Modification	7B-1-2
FPI Rules	7-1-1/5	Mooring System Construction and Certification	7B-1-3
FPI Rules	7-1-2	Surveys During Hook-up	7B-2-2
FPI Rules	7-1-3	Surveys of the Mooring System	7B-2-3
FPI Rules	7-1-4	Surveys of the Import/Export System	7B-2-4
FPI Rules	7-1-5	Surveys of the Disconnectable System	7B-2-5
FPI Rules	7-1-6	Surveys During Commissioning	7B-2-6
FPI Rules	7-2-1	Conditions for Surveys After Construction	7B-3-1
FPI Rules	7-2-2	Survey Intervals	7B-3-2
FPI Rules	7-2-3	Survey Pre-Planning and In-Service Inspection Program (ISIP)	7B-3-3
FPI Rules	7-2-4	Annual Surveys	7B-3-4
FPI Rules	7-2-5	Intermediate Surveys	7B-3-5
FPI Rules	7-2-6	Special Periodical Surveys (SPS)	7B-3-6
FPI Rules	7-2-7	Drydocking Surveys or Equivalent	7B-3-7
FPI Rules	7-2-8	Tail Shaft Surveys	7B-3-8
FPI Rules	7-2-9	Boiler Surveys	7B-3-9
FPI Rules	7-2-10	Crew Habitability on Offshore Installations	7B-3-10
FPI Rules	7-2-11	Specific Survey After Severe Weather Event	7B-3-11
FPI Rules	7-A1-1	Guidance for the Class Notation, Storage Service	7B-4-1

2024 Rule or Guide	2024 Section	Title	Offshore Rules or Facilities Guide Section
Rules for Building and Classing Offshore Installations			
Offshore Installations Rules	1-1-1	Classification	1B-4-1
Offshore Installations Rules	1-1-2	Classification Symbols and Notations	1B-4-2
Offshore Installations Rules	1-1-3	Rules for Classification	1B-1-4
Offshore Installations Rules	1-1-4	Plans and Design Data to be Submitted	3D-2-1/3 3D-2-1/5
Offshore Installations Rules	2-1-1	Structural Steels	3D-1-3
Offshore Installations Rules	2-1-2	Materials for Concrete Construction	3D-1-4
Offshore Installations Rules	2-2-1	Welding	7C-1-2/7
Offshore Installations Rules	3-1-1	Definitions and Design Documentation	3D-2-1
Offshore Installations Rules	3-1-2	Environmental Conditions	3D-2-2
Offshore Installations Rules	3-1-3	Material Selection	3D-2-3
Offshore Installations Rules	3-2-1	Loads	3D-2-4
Offshore Installations Rules	3-2-2	General Design Requirements	3D-2-5
Offshore Installations Rules	3-2-3	Steel Structures	3D-2-6
Offshore Installations Rules	3-2-4	Concrete Structures	3D-2-7
Offshore Installations Rules	3-2-5	Foundations	3D-2-8
Offshore Installations Rules	3-2-6	Marine Operations	3D-2-9
Offshore Installations Rules	3-2-7	Weld Design	3D-2-10
Offshore Installations Rules	4-1-1	General	3D-4-1
Offshore Installations Rules	4-1-2	Requirements for Extension of Use	3D-4-2
Offshore Installations Rules	4-2-1	Requirements for Reuse	3D-4-3
Offshore Installations Rules	5-1-1	General	7C-1-1
Offshore Installations Rules	5-1-2	Steel Structures	7C-1-2
Offshore Installations Rules	5-1-3	Concrete Structures	7C-1-3
Offshore Installations Rules	5-2-1	Conditions for Surveys After Construction	7C-2-1
Offshore Installations Rules	5-2-2	Annual Surveys	7C-2-2
Offshore Installations Rules	5-2-3	Special Surveys	7C-2-3
Offshore Installations Rules	5-2-4	Structural Deterioration	7C-2-4
Offshore Installations Rules	5-2-5	Maintenance of Marine Growth	7C-2-5
Offshore Installations Rules	5-2-6	Statutory Certification	7C-2-6

Notices and General Information

2024 Rule or Guide	2024 Section	Title	Offshore Rules or Facilities Guide Section
Offshore Installations Rules	5-2-7	Crew Habitability on Offshore Installations	7C-2-7
Guide for Building and Classing Drillships			
Drillship Guide	Section 1	Introduction	3A-5-1
Drillship Guide	Section 2	Design Considerations	3A-5-2
Drillship Guide	Section 3	Loads	3A-5-3
Drillship Guide	Section 4	Initial Scantling Evaluation	3A-5-4
Drillship Guide	Section 5	Total Strength Assessment	3A-5-5
Drillship Guide	Section 6	Hull Structure Beyond 0.4L Amidships	3A-5-6
Drillship Guide	Section 7	Topside and Hull Interface Structures	3A-5-7
Drillship Guide	Appendix 1	Determination of Environmental Severity Factors	3A-5-A1
Drillship Guide	Appendix 2	Fatigue Strength Assessment of Drillships	3A-5-A2
Drillship Guide	Appendix 3	Hull Girder Ultimate Strength	3A-5-A3
Drillship Guide	Appendix 4	Finite Element Analysis for Drillships	3A-5-A4
Drillship Guide	Appendix 5	Offshore Hull Construction Monitoring Program	3A-1-A3
Drillship Guide	Appendix 6	Material Selection	3A-2-5/3
Rules for Building and Classing Facilities on Offshore Installations			
Facilities Rules	1-1	Classification	Facilities Guide 1-1
Facilities Rules	1-2	Application, System Classification Boundaries, Symbols, and Notations	Facilities Guide 1-2
Facilities Rules	1-3	Rules for Classification	Facilities Guide 1-3
Facilities Rules	1-4	Recognition of Risk Based Techniques to Justify Alternatives	Facilities Guide 1-4
Facilities Rules	1-5	Submission of Plans, Data, and Calculations	Facilities Guide 1-5
Facilities Rules	1-6	Certification of Equipment	Facilities Guide 1-6
Facilities Rules	2-1	Definitions	Facilities Guide 2-1
Facilities Rules	2-2	References	Facilities Guide 2-2
Facilities Rules	2-3	Acronyms and Abbreviations	Facilities Guide 2-3
Facilities Rules	3-1	General	Facilities Guide 3-1
Facilities Rules	3-2	Design Plans and Data	Facilities Guide 3-2
Facilities Rules	3-3	Hydrocarbon Production and Process Systems	Facilities Guide 3-3
Facilities Rules	3-3/5	Facility Layout	8-12-2
Facilities Rules	3-3/13.3 3-7/11, 13	Safety and Process Shutdown Systems	8-12-5
Facilities Rules	3-4	Process Support Systems	Facilities Guide 3-4
Facilities Rules	3-5 3-2/11	Marine Support Systems	8-12-6
Facilities Rules	3-6	Electrical Systems	Facilities Guide 3-6
Facilities Rules	3-6/5.9 3-6/15	Electrical Systems	8-12-3
Facilities Rules	3-7	Instrumentation & Control Systems	Facilities Guide 3-7
Facilities Rules	3-8 4-8	Fire Protection and Personnel Safety	8-12-4
Facilities Rules	4-1	General	Facilities Guide 4-1
Facilities Rules	4-2	Design Plans and Data	Facilities Guide 4-2
Facilities Rules	4-3	Hydrocarbon Production and Process Systems	Facilities Guide 4-3
Facilities Rules	4-4	Process and Platform Support Systems	Facilities Guide 4-4
Facilities Rules	4-5	INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK	Facilities Guide 4-5
Facilities Rules	4-6	Electrical Systems	Facilities Guide 4-6
Facilities Rules	4-7	Instrumentation and Control Systems	Facilities Guide 4-7
Facilities Rules	4-8	Fire Protection and Personnel Safety	Facilities Guide 4-8
Facilities Rules	5-1	Surveys During Construction and Commissioning	Facilities Guide 5-1
Facilities Rules	5-2	Surveys for Maintenance of Class	Facilities Guide 5-2
Facilities Rules	5-3	Risk Based Surveys for Maintenance of Class	Facilities Guide 5-3
Facilities Rules	A1-1	Scope and Conditions of Certification	Facilities Guide A1-1
Facilities Rules	A1-2	Design	Facilities Guide A1-2
Facilities Rules	A1-3	Installation	Facilities Guide A1-3

Notices and General Information

2024 Rule or Guide	2024 Section	Title	Offshore Rules or Facilities Guide Section
Facilities Rules	A1-4	Manufacturing	Facilities Guide A1-4
Facilities Rules	A1-5	Pipe Bonding Procedure Qualification	Facilities Guide A1-5
Facilities Rules	A1-6	Tests by the Manufacturer - Fire Endurance Testing of FRP Piping in Dry Condition (For Level 1 and Level 2)	4-2-2/7.13
Facilities Rules	A1-7	Tests by the Manufacturer - Fire Endurance Testing of Water-filled FRP Piping (For Level 3)	4-2-2/7.15
Facilities Rules	A1-8	Tests by the Manufacturer - Wet/Dry Fire Endurance Testing of FRP Piping Used in Deluge System (For Level 3 Modified Test - Level 3 WD) (Adopted from USCG PFM 1-98)	4-2-2/7.16
Facilities Rules	A1-9	Tests by the Manufacturer - Flame Spread	4-2-2/7.17
Facilities Rules	A1-10	Testing Onboard	Facilities Guide A1-6
Facilities Rules	A1-11	References	Facilities Guide A1-Annex 1
Facilities Rules	A2-1	Fire Tests for Non-metallic Hoses	Facilities Guide A2-1
Facilities Rules	A3-1	Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP) Gratings	5-3-A1
Facilities Rules	A3-2	Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP) Guard Railings	5-3-A2
Facilities Rules	A4-1	References, Codes and Standards	Facilities Guide A3-1
Facilities Rules	A5-1	Systems Requirements for Floating Installations	Deleted

Rule Change Notice (1 July 2025)

TABLE 4
Summary of Changes from the January 2025 Rules

EFFECTIVE DATE 1 July 2025 – shown as (1 July 2025)

<i>Part/Para. No.</i>	<i>Title/Subject</i>	<i>Status/Remarks</i>
PART 1B	Rules for Conditions of Classification – Offshore Units	
1B-1-1/11	Classification	To add a definition to clarify the term "Technical Assessment".
1B-1-2/13	Suspension and Cancellation of Classification	To introduce new Class Lifecycle States to support decommissioning, since some Coastal States do not accept units in the Laid-Up State in their waters.
1B-1-3/17.1	Classification, Symbols and Notations	To clearly define "Remote Control" as on board the vessel.
1B-1-4/1.3	Rules for Classification	To clarify the applicable Rules for the special circumstance where a Basic Design or Front-end Engineering Design (FEED) is carried out, since implementing a new version of Rule requirements after the completion of the Basic Design or FEED may cause extensive redesign and drastically impact the estimated cost.
1B-1-4/3.1	Rules for Classification	To clearly state the effective dates of each Part of the Rules and to change the effective date of Part 2 from the date materials are purchased to the date of contract for construction to align with recent IACS UR W updates.
1B-3-2/5.7.5	System Classification, Symbols and Notations	To add the location in which the FPI is to continue its service to the notation, as life extension is dependent upon environmental conditions in that location.
1B-3-2/5.7.6	System Classification, Symbols and Notations	To require decommissioning plans to be approved to support new Class Lifecycle States being introduced in 1B-1-2/13.

EFFECTIVE DATE 1 July 2025 – shown as (1 July 2025)

(based on the contract date for new construction between builder and Owner)

<i>Part/Para. No.</i>	<i>Title/Subject</i>	<i>Status/Remarks</i>
PART 3A	Hull Structure – Mobile Offshore Units	
3A-1-1/3.1, 3.3.1, 3.5.1, 29	Definition	To clarify the definitions of several unit types and of critical structural areas in response to a client comment.
3A-1-1/17, 25	Definition	To update the definitions of Mode of Operation and Service Temperature to ease the process of material selection where the weather conditions during construction differ from those during the service life of the unit.
3A-1-2/1	Plans and Design Data to be Submitted	To clarify that the plan submission for the legs are to include footings, spudcans, pads or mats in response to a client comment, and to add leg fixation systems and clarify that structures supporting the drilling derrick include the substructure and cantilever in response to comments from ABS Technical Committees.
PART 3B	Hull Structure – Site-Specific Ship-Type Floating Installations	
3B-1-3/19iii)d)	General Requirements	To provide alternative acceptance criteria for coatings complying with the requirements for the CPS-COT notation for produced water tanks, slop tanks, or off-spec oil tanks.
3B-2-1/3.11	General	To add a definition of Service Temperature to ease the process of material selection where the weather conditions during construction differ from those during the service life of the unit.
3B-2-4/3.1.2iii)	Design and Analysis of Other Major Hull Structural Features	To specify that actual loading conditions are to be used for internal turret mooring systems.

<i>Part/Para. No.</i>	<i>Title/Subject</i>	<i>Status/Remarks</i>
3B-4-1/5.19.2, 5.19.3	General	To remove the requirement for the PMA notation be assigned for New Construction units since alternative means for access may be considered acceptable.
PART 4	Vessel Systems and Machinery	
4-2-2/21.13	Pumps, Pipes, Valves, and Fittings	To update the Rules to address fractures that have occurred in the top plating of Spud Cans near the jetting lines during service.

Part 7 “Rules for Survey After Construction”

The reference date which is indicated in the parentheses following the title of the requirement in this Part is the date that the requirement becomes effective [e.g., 7A-2-3/2.5 “Survey Pre-Planning” (1 July 2025) is to apply for units undergoing survey on or after 1 July 2025].

EFFECTIVE DATE 1 July 2025 – shown as (1 July 2025)

<i>Part/Para. No.</i>	<i>Title/Subject</i>	<i>Status/Remarks</i>
PART 7A	Surveys – Mobile Offshore Units	
7A-2-3/2.5	Survey Pre-Planning	To include reference to the Remote Inspection Technique plan (and to be aligned with FPI 7-2-3/1.3xxiii) Planning Document).
7A-2-4/2.1.9	Annual Surveys	To update the requirements for "Suspect Areas" to clarify that Suspect Areas can be subject to re-examination in intervals less than one (1) year.
7A-2-5/2.7.1	Special Periodical Surveys	To update reference since IACS Recommendation No. 12 was deleted and included in IACS UR W11.
7A-2-5/2.8	Special Periodical Surveys	To align the process to be consistent across Rule sets and provide latitude to the Surveyor to waive thickness measurement in the course of inspection for more flexibility on MOU surveys.
7A-2-5/7.1.1.1, 7.7.1	Special Periodical Surveys	To remove the reference to (7-2-6/1.5 TABLE 1) due to the PRC to OR 7A-2-6/2.5.2 which replaces 7-2-6/Table 1 "Examination of Mat or Spud Cans during Drydocking Survey" with text and to add a requirement for leg fixation systems.
7A-2-5/9, 9.5.1(c)	Special Periodical Surveys	To align the Offshore Rules survey requirements in 7A-2-5/9.5.1(c) with 7-6-2/3.1.3 of the ABS Rules for Survey After Construction.
7A-2-6/2.5.2, Table 1	Drydocking Surveys or Equivalent	To simplify the section as the table has proven to be confusing by input from the field.
7A-2-6/3.11.2	Drydocking Surveys or Equivalent	To add criteria and requirements for inspection from inside the hull as an alternative, in line with industry practice.
7A-2-A2/2.3, 2.5	Survey of Portable Modules	To consolidate survey requirements for portable modules in Part 7A.
PART 7B	Surveys – Site-Specific Floating Installations	
7B-1-2/5.5.2(j)	Surveys During Construction or Modification	To clarify that composite repairs are permitted if they comply with the ABS "Requirements for Bonded and Composite Repairs of Steel Structures and Piping".
7B-2-4/13	Surveys of the Import/Export System	To clarify that the entire installation (from the piping connection to the reels to the hose on the reel and onto the floating hose) should be leak tested once the final configuration is completed at the final location to ensure leak tightness during actual use and to remove outdated OCIMF reference and replace with reference to API, OCIMF, or other recognized codes of practice.
7B-2-5/2	Surveys of the Disconnectable System	To clarify that the rotation test is to be carried out if applicable.
7B-3-1/3.37	Conditions for Surveys After Construction	To relocate the requirements for suspect areas from the definition of the term to 7B-3-4/3.7, 3.13 and 7B-3-6/3.4.

Notices and General Information

<i>Part/Para. No.</i>	<i>Title/Subject</i>	<i>Status/Remarks</i>
7B-3-2/15	Survey Intervals	To add a new Subsection 7B-3-2/15 with details about the Modified Tank Entry Program for cargo oil tanks, ballast tanks, and void spaces.
7B-3-3/3.3	Survey Pre-Planning and In-Service Inspection Program (ISIP)	To remove "For units contracted on or after 1 January 2022" and to correct reference to include 3.3.5.
7B-3-4/3.7, 3.13	Annual Surveys	To move requirements for suspect areas out of the definition of the term and clarify that Suspect Areas can be subject to re-examination in intervals less than one (1) year and to include other objects that overhang hull and make contact with the side shell.
7B-3-4/9.8	Annual Surveys	To specify requirements for Crude Oil Washing and Tank Cleaning Systems since regular tank cleaning is essential to COT health and maintenance of the Tank Examination Schedule for Class and Statutory Surveys.
7B-3-4/11	Annual Surveys	To include a Survey after Construction (SAC) item to confirm that the operation manual is on board during annual surveys and other minor revisions for clarity.
7B-3-4/21	Annual Surveys	To add item for review of the inspection and testing records of the completed floating hose string against Maker or OCIMF requirements.
PART 7C	Surveys – Fixed Offshore Installations	
7C-1-1/9	General	To address a gap between the design requirements contained in Part 1B and the Survey requirements in Part 7C.
7C-2-2/5	Annual Surveys	To address a gap between the design requirements contained in Part 1B and the Survey requirements in Part 7C.
7C-2-3/7	Special Surveys	To address a gap between the design requirements contained in Part 1B and the Survey requirements in Part 7C.