

Rules for Building and Classing

Mobile Offshore Units

Notices and General Information



July 2024



RULES FOR BUILDING AND CLASSING

MOBILE OFFSHORE UNITS JULY 2024

NOTICES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

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

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Notices and General Information

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Notices and General Information

Introduction

1. The 2024 edition of the *Rules for Building and Classing Mobile Offshore Units* consists of the Parts as shown in Table 1. In this regard, we would bring the following to the user's attention:
 - a) The purpose of the generic title *ABS Rules for Conditions of Classification – Offshore Units and Structures (Part 1B)* is to reflect the expanded contents of PART 1B, 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 1B.
 - b) The purpose of the generic *ABS Rules for Alternative Arrangements, Novel Concepts and New Technologies (Part 1D)* is to introduce 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) 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.
2. The numbering system applied in the Rules is shown in Table 2.
3. The primary changes from the January 2024 Rules are identified and listed in Table 3. The effective date of the indicated Rule Changes is 1 July 2024, 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.
4. The listing of CLASSIFICATION SYMBOLS AND NOTATIONS is available from the ABS website www.eagle.org for download.

TABLE 1
Applicable Editions of Parts Comprising January 2024 MOU Rules

Notices and General Information		July 2024
Part 1B:	Rules for Conditions of Classification – Offshore Units and Structures	July 2024
Part 1D:	Rules for Alternative Arrangements, Novel Concepts and New Technologies	January 2024
Part 2:	Rules for Materials and Welding	July 2024
Part 3:	Hull Construction and Equipment	July 2024
Part 4:	Machinery and Systems	January 2024
Part 5:	Fire and Safety – Measures and Features	July 2024
Part 6:	Rules for Equipment and Machinery Certification	July 2024
Part 7:	Surveys	July 2024
Part 8:	Specific Unit Types 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	January 2024

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.

Rule Change Notice (1 July 2024)

TABLE 3
Summary of Changes from the January 2024 Rules
EFFECTIVE DATE 1 July 2024 – shown as (1 July 2024)

<i>Part/Para. No.</i>	<i>Title/Subject</i>	<i>Status/Remarks</i>
PART 1B	Rules for Conditions of Classification – Offshore Units and Structures	
1B-1-2/7.1	Suspension and Cancellation of Classification (1998)	To clarify that any statutory certificates issued to a facility by ABS are invalidated and no longer supported when class is suspended.
1B-1-2/7.11	Suspension and Cancellation of Classification (1998)	To add some actual force majeure scenarios for Drilling Units, which are not operationally similar to vessels.
1B-1-7/9	Submission of Plans	To add clarification and commentary to asbestos free declaration in line with current ABS practice.
1B-1-8/4	Conditions for Surveys After Construction	To align the section on "Notification of Port State Detention" with the Conditions of Classification for Ships.
1B-1-A2/5.5	ABS Type Approval Program	To replace final approval by the Manager of the Type Approval Program with local area operations manager, since Operations will take the responsibility in issuing PQA certificates and letters to clients per the updated ABS practice.

EFFECTIVE DATE 1 July 2024 – shown as (1 July 2024)
(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 3	Hull Construction and Equipment	
3-2-2/7.1	Common Structures	To update the increased factor for tanks loaded with liquids with the specific gravity of the liquid contents of a tank greater than 1.05, in line with MVR 3-2-10/3.
PART 5	Fire and Safety – Measures and Features	
5-1-1/5.33	General	To update details of Ventilation ducts penetrating "B" class divisions in Figure 4 to align with IMO interpretation Circ.1/Circ. 1655.
PART 6	Material, Marine Equipment and Machinery Certification	
6-1-7/3.5	Section 7 Electrical Systems and Control Equipment	To provide documentation requirements for Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) or semiconductor converters for adjustable speed motors in line with 4-8-1/5.5.5 of MVR requirements for the plans and data to be submitted.

Part 7 “Surveys”

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., 7-2-6/1.5.1i), 3.5.2 “Drydocking Surveys or Equivalent” (1 July 2024) is to apply for units undergoing survey on or after 1 July 2024].

EFFECTIVE DATE 1 July 2024 – shown as (1 July 2024)

<i>Part/Para. No.</i>	<i>Title/Subject</i>	<i>Status/Remarks</i>
PART 7	Surveys	
7-2-6/1.5.1i), 3.5.2	Drydocking Surveys or Equivalent	To align with MVR terminology and clarify In-Water Surveys.
7-3-1	Offshore Substation Systems	To add a new Chapter 3 for Additional Systems and Services and a new section for "Offshore Substation".