

CLASSIFICATION NOTES

Type Testing Procedure for Crankcase Oil Mist Detection and Alarm Equipment

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Type Testing Procedure for Crankcase Oil Mist Detection and Alarm Equipment

1. Scope, Application

- 1.1 This type testing procedure specifies tests required to demonstrate that crankcase oil mist detection and alarm equipment intended to be fitted to diesel engines satisfy IRS requirements.
- 1.2 This test procedure is also applicable to oil mist detection and alarm equipment intended for gear cases.
- 1.3 Engines are to be fitted with crankcase oil mist detection and alarm equipment complying with this Classification Notes when:
 - a) An application for certification of an engine is dated on/after 1 January 2007; or
 - b) Installed in new ships for which the date of contract for construction is on or after 1 January 2007.

The requirements in para 6.7 and 6.8 are applicable from 01 January 2008.

2. Recognized Standards for Tests

- 2.1 Details of tests and relevant standards are given in IRS Classification Notes : “Type approval of electrical equipment used for control, protection, safety and internal communication in marine environment”.

3. Purpose

- 3.1 The purpose of type testing crankcase oil mist detection and alarm equipment is to verify:
 - 3.1.1 The functionality of the system.
 - 3.1.2 The effectiveness of the oil mist detectors.
 - 3.1.3 The accuracy of oil mist detectors.
 - 3.1.4 The alarm set points.
 - 3.1.5 Time delays between occurrence of oil mist at the source and activation of alarm.
 - 3.1.6 Functional failure detection.
 - 3.1.7 The influence of optical obscuration on detection.

4. Test facilities

- 4.1 Test houses carrying out type testing of crankcase oil mist detection and alarm equipment are to satisfy the following criteria:
 - 4.1.1 A full range of facilities for carrying out the environmental and functionality tests required by this procedure are to be available and be acceptable to IRS.
 - 4.1.2 The test house is to be equipped so that it can control, measure and record oil mist concentration levels in terms of mg/l to an accuracy of $\pm 10\%$ in accordance with this procedure.

5. Equipment tests

5.1 The range of tests is to include the following:

5.1.1 For the alarm/monitoring panel:

- a) Functional tests described in Section 6.
- b) Electrical power supply failure test.
- c) Power supply variation test.
- d) Dry heat test.
- e) Damp heat test.
- f) Vibration test
- g) EMC test
- h) Insulation resistance test.
- i) High voltage test.
- j) Static and dynamic inclinations, if oil mist detection equipment has any moving parts.

5.1.2 For the detectors:

- a) Functional tests described in Section 6.
- b) Electrical power supply failure test
- c) Power supply variation test
- d) Dry heat test
- e) Damp heat test.
- f) Vibration test.
- g) EMC test where susceptible.
- h) Insulation resistance test.
- i) High voltage test.
- j) Static and dynamic inclinations.

6. Functional tests

- 6.1 All tests required to verify the functionality of crankcase oil mist detection and alarm equipment are to be carried out in accordance with 6.2 to 6.6 with an oil mist concentration in air, known in terms of mg/ltr to an accuracy of $\pm 10\%$.
- 6.2 The concentration of oil mist in the test chamber is to be measured in the top and bottom of the chamber and these concentrations are not to differ by more than 10%. See also 8.1.1.1.
- 6.3 The oil mist monitoring arrangements are to be capable of detecting oil mist in air concentrations of between 0 and 10% of the lower explosive limit (LEL) or between 0 and a percentage corresponding to a level not less than twice the maximum oil mist concentration alarm set point.
- Note:** The LEL corresponds to an oil mist concentration of approximately 50mg/l (~4.1% weight of oil in air mixture).
- 6.4 The alarm set point for oil mist concentration in air is to initiate an alarm at a maximum level corresponding to not more than 5% of the LEL or approximately 2.5mg/l
- 6.5 Where alarm set points can be altered, the means of adjustment and indication of set points are to be verified against the equipment manufacturer's instructions
- 6.6 Where oil mist is drawn into a detector via piping arrangements, the time delay between the sample leaving the crankcase and operation of the alarm is to be determined for the longest and shortest lengths of pipes recommended by the manufacturer. The piping arrangements are to be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions/recommendations.
- 6.7 Detector equipment that is in contact with the crankcase atmosphere and may be exposed to oil splash and spray from engine lubricating oil is to be demonstrated to be such, that openings do not occlude or get blocked under continuous oil splash and spray conditions. Testing is to be in accordance with arrangements proposed by the manufacturer and agreed by IRS.
- 6.8 Detector equipment may be exposed to water vapour from the crankcase atmosphere which may affect the sensitivity of the equipment and it is to be demonstrated that exposure to such conditions will not affect the functional operation of the detector equipment. Where exposure to water vapour and/or water condensation has been identified as a possible source of equipment malfunctioning, testing is to demonstrate that any mitigating arrangements such as heating are effective. Testing is to be in accordance with arrangements proposed by the manufacturer and agreed by IRS.

Note : This testing is in addition to that required by 5.1.2(e) and is to ensure that the condensation caused by the detection equipment being at a lower temperature than the crankcase atmosphere does not affect the functioning of the equipment.

7 Testing of Detectors and alarm equipment

- 7.1 The detectors and alarm equipment undergoing the type testing are to be selected from the manufacturer's normal production line by the Surveyor witnessing the tests.
- 7.2 Two detectors are to be tested. One is to be tested in clean condition and the other in a condition representing the maximum level of lens obscuration specified by the manufacturer.

8. Method of Testing

8.1 The following requirements are to be complied with during type testing:

8.1.1 Oil mist generation is to satisfy requirements given in 8.1.1.1 to 8.1.1.5.

8.1.1.1 Oil mist is to be generated with suitable equipment using an SAE 80 monograde mineral oil or equivalent and supplied to a test chamber having a volume of not less than 1m³. The oil mist produced is to have a maximum droplet size of 5 µm.

Note : The oil droplet size is to be checked using the sedimentation method or equivalent.

8.1.1.2 The oil mist concentrations used are to be ascertained by the gravimetric deterministic method or equivalent.

Note : For this test, the gravimetric deterministic method is a process where the difference in weight of a 0.8 µm pore size membrane filter is ascertained from weighing the filter before and after drawing 1 litre of oil mist through the filter from the oil mist test chamber. The oil mist chamber is to be fitted with a recirculating fan.

8.1.1.3 Samples of oil mist are to be taken at regular intervals and the results plotted against the oil mist detector output. The oil mist detector is to be located adjacent to where the oil mist samples are drawn off.

8.1.1.4 The results of a gravimetric analysis are considered invalid and are to be rejected if the resultant calibration curve has an increasing gradient with respect to the oil mist detection reading. This situation occurs when insufficient time has been allowed for the oil mist to become homogeneous. Single results that are more than 10% below the calibration curve are to be rejected. This situation occurs when the integrity of the filter unit has been compromised and not all of the oil is collected on the filter paper.

8.1.1.5 The filters are to be weighed to a precision of 0.1 mg and the volume of air/oil mist sampled to 10 ml.

8.1.2 The testing is to be witnessed by Surveyor.

8.1.3 Oil mist detection equipment is to be tested in the orientation (vertical, horizontal or inclined) in which it is intended to be installed on an engine or gear case as specified by the equipment manufacturer.

8.1.4 Type testing is to be carried out for each type of oil mist detection and alarm equipment for which a manufacturer seeks IRS approval. Where sensitivity levels can be adjusted, testing is to be carried out at the extreme and mid-point level settings.

9. Assessment

9.1 Assessment of oil mist detection equipment after testing is to address the following:

9.1.1 The evidence of design appraisal/approval from IRS for the equipment under testing is to be shown to the attending Surveyor.

9.1.2 Details such as name of manufacturer, type designation, oil mist concentration assessment capability and alarm settings of the detection equipment to be tested are to be recorded.

9.1.3 After completing the tests, the detection equipment is to be examined and the condition of all components ascertained and documented. Photographic records showing the condition of the monitoring equipment are to be included in the report.

10. Approval of Detection Equipment of Equivalent Design Features

- 10.1 The approval of one type of detection equipment may be used to approve other devices having identical construction details. Proposals are to be submitted for consideration.

11. Test Report

11.1 The test laboratory is to provide a full report consisting of following information and any other relevant documents in support of the test report:

11.1.1 Test specification.

11.1.2 Details of devices tested.

11.1.3 Results of tests.

12. Approval

- 12.1 Approval of crankcase oil mist detection equipment is at the discretion of IRS based on the appraisal of plans and particulars and satisfactory review of the results of type test report.
- 12.2 The following information is to be submitted to IRS for approval of oil mist detection equipment and alarm arrangements:
- 12.2.1 Description of oil mist detection equipment and system including alarms.
- 12.2.2 Copy of the test house report identified in para 11.
- 12.2.3 Schematic layout of engine oil mist detection arrangements showing location of detectors/sensors and piping arrangements and dimensions.
- 12.2.4 Maintenance and test manual including the following information:
- a) Intended use of equipment and its operation.
 - b) Functionality tests to demonstrate that the equipment is operational and that any faults can be identified and corrective actions notified.
 - c) Maintenance routines and spare parts recommendations.
 - d) Limit setting and instructions for the safe limit levels.
 - e) Where necessary, details of configurations in which the equipment is to be used and is not to be used.