

The ISAF System for In-House Certification (IHC)

Status report from the Equipment Control Sub-Committee IHC working party, 8 September 2005.

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Mission

To make available to sailors internationally acceptable, ready to use certified equipment, compliant with the relevant class rules at the lowest possible cost. IHC should significantly reduce the quantity of un-certified equipment being presented at Regatta Equipment Inspection.

Definition

ISAF IHC status means that, by complying with ISAF requirements, the Manufacturer is permitted by ISAF, or an MNA to which ISAF has delegated IHC administration, to produce and market certified equipment in compliance with the relevant Class Rules. IHC will be an alternative to traditional certification where permitted by MNA

Conditions for IHC

In-house certification (provided it is not prohibited by the class rules) may only be authorized under the following conditions:

The IHC licensed manufacturer shall accept:

- An IHC inspection and approval process.
- To allocate one or more employees to become internal official measurers.
- Responsibility for compliance with class rules.
- Penalties for non-compliance.

The continuation of the IHC contract is dependent on the following:

- At subsequent audits undertaken by ISAF, or an MNA to which ISAF has delegated IHC administration, the standards required for IHC inspection and approval being maintained.
- Effective corrective action being taken in respect of any non-compliance and preventive action being taken to avoid further non-compliance.

IHC administration

ISAF sets out the structure, guidelines and minimum criteria for the IHC system and review applications for IHC status for MNA:s wishing to carry out IHC within its jurisdiction. Where an MNA is not willing or able to administer IHC but permits IHC, ISAF will administer IHC for manufacturers in that country.

Methods of control

IHC relies on the class rules, ERS and production procedures of the Manufacturer

All methods adopted shall be inspected and approved by the ISAF, or MNA to which ISAF has delegated IHC administration, and shall be subject to regular inspection.

Certification mark

Any item of equipment certified under IHC shall be provided with an ISAF approved certification mark. This certification mark will carry the ISAF logo to expose the ISAF brand and to indicate that international IHC is a service provided by ISAF.

Cost

The application and on-going costs of IHC authorization and of certification shall be borne by the manufacturer.

Limitation

In-House Certification is for assuring conformity with the class rules only

Proposed time table

- November 2005. The proposed ISAF IHC system presented to the Council for approval in principle.
- Spring 2006. The detailed ISAF IHC system presented to the Executive Committee for approval.