

An Introduction to BKI Rules for Indonesian Domestic Vessels: Electrical Installation

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Abstract: To sail at sea, a ship is required to ensure its seaworthiness. This requirement must be met by compliance to safety regulation that is enforced by a classification society and the Administration. However, based on data from Ministry of Transportation, there are 25.559 ships operating in Indonesian waters bearing Indonesian flag and from that amount only approximately 47% of them are classified by classification society. Those ships are not classed because they cannot comply with class's requirements since those requirements are designed to be applied by sea-going ships while those ships only operate domestically on Indonesian waters. As a national classification society, Biro Klasifikasi Indonesia has a very important role to ensure the safety of domestic ships by developing rules for ships that covers Indonesian waters only. The domestic rules which have been developed consists of 5 (five) parts that is rules for construction/hull, rules for classification and survey, rules for machinery installation, rules for electrical installation and rules for material. This paper will present the requirements for electrical installation for ships which operates on Indonesian waters.

1 INTRODUCTION

As Indonesia is an archipelagic nation, ship remains to be one of the most prominent modes of transport in the whole nation, be it transporting goods or passenger. This is evident by the data from Ministry of Transportation which shows that there are 25.559 ships operating in Indonesian waters bearing Indonesian flag (Ministry of Transportation, 2018). To ensure the safety of passenger and goods aboard the ships, it is required for the ships to ensure its safety and seaworthiness.

The safety and seaworthiness of a ship consists of many aspect, among them are material, construction, machinery, electrical installation and crews. The requirement which covers those aspects are enforced by two bodies, classification society and Administration. Thus, it is beneficial for ships to be classified by a classification society since its safety and seaworthiness can be ensured.

Biro Klasifikasi Indonesia (BKI) is the only national classification bureau appointed by the government of the Republic of Indonesia to give class of Indonesian flagged-vessels (BKI, 2019).

The process of giving class to a ship is done by BKI with reference to its own sets of Rules which covers many aspects from construction to electrical installation. BKI also has the ability to conduct statutory survey which proves a ship's compliance to National and International Regulation.

Despite the benefit of classing a ship and the existence of national classification bureau, there are still many domestic ships in Indonesia which is not classified by class society. Approximately 47% from the total amount of domestic ships are not classed. Those ships are not classed because they cannot comply with class's requirement since those requirements are designed to be applied by sea-going ships whereas those ships only operate domestically on Indonesian waters. This obstacle faced by domestic ships motivates BKI to develop a special sets of Rules which is appropriate for domestic condition while still able to ensure the safety of the ships. This paper will discuss the domestic Rules that has been developed by BKI, especially the requirements of the said Rules concerning electrical installation.