



CLASS – Bob Somerville, Chairman, International Association of Classification Societies (IACS)

Bob is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of ABS. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering from Maine Maritime Academy and completed Harvard Business School's programme for Management Development. Prior to joining ABS in 1970 he served as a seagoing engineer and gained shipyard experience at Newport News, at the time the largest shipbuilder in the world. At ABS, Bob rose to be Principal Surveyor, Regional Manager for Western Europe, and then President and Chief Operating Officer of ABS Europe and ultimately of ABS. Bob is an active member of many professional associations and has received numerous awards in recognition of his contributions to maritime safety.

IACS has singled out a small number of key initiatives that are considered to be attainable within the next twelve months and that individually and collectively mark significant forward progress towards raising overall maritime safety standards.

KEY INITIATIVES:

- Effective, consistent and transparent implementation of the new Common Structural Rules for tankers and bulk carriers.
- Adoption of a new IACS Unified Requirement for Hull Surveys during New Construction.
- Consistent implementation of the latest requirements of the Enhanced Survey Program for single and double hull tankers.
- Expansion of the assistance provided by IACS to poorly performing flag States.
- Improvement and expansion of the IACS Quality System Certification Scheme and
- Reduction of the overall percentage of IACS classed vessels detained under the Paris, Tokyo and U.S. Coast Guard port state control systems for class-related deficiencies.

