NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION SHIP INSPECTION PROGRAM











2025 RVOC MEETING

JMS NAVAL ARCHITECTS

Naval Architecture
Marine Engineering
Marine Surveying
Salvage Engineering

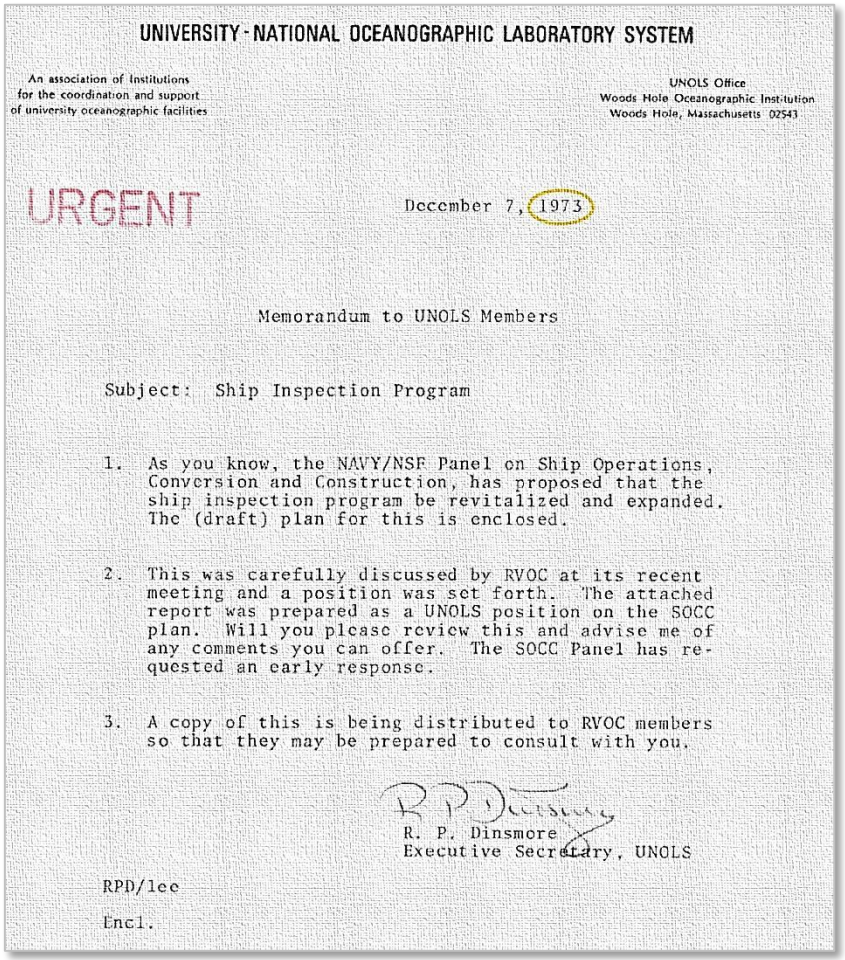
NSF Ship Inspection Program: Purpose

The Ship Inspection Program constitutes both a “condition” and “assistance” survey to ensure overall safety and operational effectiveness in support of oceanographic research. The program objectives are to ensure that:

- The vessels are compliant with the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) *Research Vessel Safety Standards* (RVSS) and applicable regulatory requirements;
- The vessels are being properly maintained as a capital asset when compared with other similar vessels within the Academic Research Fleet based on a standardized NSF evaluation system;
- The vessels are capable of effectively conducting NSF-sponsored research cruises. In particular, that the scientific equipment and systems are both fully operational and state-of-the-art with those being utilized within the scientific community and industry; and
- The vessel operators are able to effectively pursue a continuous maintenance and improvement program.

The inspections also provide NSF with current information and documentation that assists in developing funding objectives for maintaining the vessels and the scientific equipment in a high degree of operational readiness to meet oceanographic research objectives.

NSF Ship Inspection Program: Purpose



UNIVERSITY-NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC LABORATORY SYSTEM

An association of institutions
for the coordination and support
of university oceanographic facilities

UNOLS Office
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

URGENT

December 7, 1973

Memorandum to UNOLS Members

Subject: Ship Inspection Program

1. As you know, the NAVY/NSF Panel on Ship Operations, Conversion and Construction, has proposed that the ship inspection program be revitalized and expanded. The (draft) plan for this is enclosed.

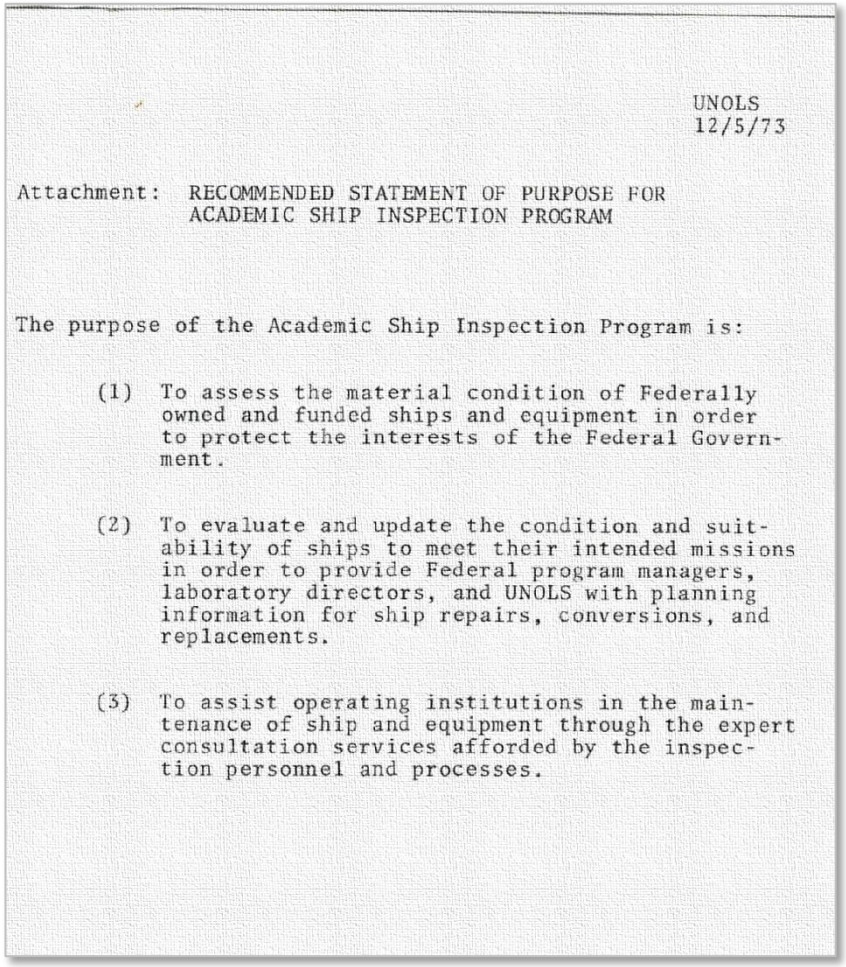
2. This was carefully discussed by RVOC at its recent meeting and a position was set forth. The attached report was prepared as a UNOLS position on the SOCC plan. Will you please review this and advise me of any comments you can offer. The SOCC Panel has requested an early response.

3. A copy of this is being distributed to RVOC members so that they may be prepared to consult with you.

R. P. Dinsmore
Executive Secretary, UNOLS

RPD/lee

Encl.



UNOLS
12/5/73

Attachment: RECOMMENDED STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR ACADEMIC SHIP INSPECTION PROGRAM

The purpose of the Academic Ship Inspection Program is:

(1) To assess the material condition of Federally owned and funded ships and equipment in order to protect the interests of the Federal Government.

(2) To evaluate and update the condition and suitability of ships to meet their intended missions in order to provide Federal program managers, laboratory directors, and UNOLS with planning information for ship repairs, conversions, and replacements.

(3) To assist operating institutions in the maintenance of ship and equipment through the expert consultation services afforded by the inspection personnel and processes.

:

NSF Ship Inspection Program
Most Common Findings - Appendix A & B

3

- **OHS Manuals - Only 1 vessel inspected in the past year had developed any OHS Manuals.**
- Routine OHS Testing. ***Tests must be conducted in a manner that most closely mimics the use of a system or component at sea***.
- Extenuating Circumstances Plan (SOP). ***Operators shall develop a procedure on how, and under what circumstances, the vessel will safely continue operations in the event the operating requirements are not met***.
- Keeping up to date with wire and cable lubrication per the Wire Pool Maintenance Policy. About **30%** are in compliance.
- Procedures to maintain the tension monitoring system within 3% tolerance limits.
- Formal operator training and certification renewed annually so that each operator receives training on the winch, the overboarding apparatus, and the tension monitoring system.
- An entry must be made in the official logbook prior to departure attesting that the ship's weight handling gear is in compliance with the applicable requirements.

Appendix A & B:
Most Common Findings

B.5.3 OHS OPERATOR'S MANUALS

An OHS Operator's Manual must be maintained for each OHS (except for those combining portable and fixed equipment). Each Operator's Manual must contain at a minimum:

- A detailed description of the OHS layout, including:
  - o The location of each major component.
  - o The orientation of each major component in each OHS configuration.
  - o The geometry of the tension member in each OHS configuration.
  - o The overall dimensions of each major component.
  - o The weight of major portable components.
  - o System particulars (i.e. operating order or considerations, not duplicating component manuals. Example: Turn on A-Frame HPU then Winch HPU, or operate equipment synchronized as described in A-Frame manual and Winch Manual).
- OHS test procedures.
- Procedural safety requirements.
- Operator training procedures.
- References to individual component manuals or data sheets as applicable.
- Routine maintenance procedures should be documented or referenced.

Congratulations -
Best Grub, Cleanest Bilge, & Best MOB Drill
Annual Awards

JMS NAVAL ARCHITECTS

Naval Architecture
Marine Engineering
Marine Surveying
Salvage Engineering

Questions?

JMS
NAVAL ARCHITECTS

70 Essex Street
Mystic, CT 06355 USA
www.JMSnet.com

T. Blake Powell
PRESIDENT
860.536.0009 ext 1
860.662.2014 mobile
Blake@JMSnet.com

- Naval Architecture
- Salvage Engineering
- Marine Engineering
- Marine Surveying