

PRESS RELEASE



GUIDE TO PROPULSION REDUCTION GEAR ALIGNMENT AND INSTALLATION

THE SOCIETY OF NAVAL ARCHITECTS AND MARINE ENGINEERS HAS PUBLISHED AN UPDATE TO TECHNICAL AND RESEARCH BULLETIN (T&R) 3-43 TITLED, *Guide to Propulsion Reduction Gear Alignment and Installation*. This Bulletin updates the 1987 version to current technology and best practices. The guide is applicable for all sizes of power plants and vessels (including small craft) for commercial, naval, or recreational use.

The guide provides vessel owners, operators, designers, builders and gear manufacturers with definitive information helpful for designing and successfully installing reduction gears that will deliver long and reliable marine service. References are made to applicable standards with the focus on providing an understanding of the important concepts, elements, techniques, and best practices in working together to achieve successful and practical installations.

The current bulletin recognizes that the gear manufacturers have addressed a number of the major issues that the builders and installers of large ships used to have to work through. The guidelines address parallel axis gearing with both single and multiple input and output shafts and are also generally applicable to submarine gears, epicyclic gears, or to vessels with resiliently mounted gears. The purpose is not to define specific tolerances or limits on deflection, load distribution or alignment or provide details for preparation of contracts or purchase orders. Instead, the Guidelines are to help the user to focus attention on areas that should be considered in the preparation and/or execution of such contracts and/or purchase orders.

Originally published in 1961 and updated in 1987, the earlier versions of the Guide were developed by SNAME Panel M-16 (Modernization of Propulsion Shaft Systems). Funding and technical support for this update was provided by the National Shipbuilding Research Program (NSRP) to assist with insuring inclusion of technical expertise from those who perform installation and alignment on a regular basis. Reviews of the update were provided by a working group made up of representatives from the Ships Machinery and Ship Production Committees and Panel M-16 of the Society. Those contributing to the update include a wide variety of dedicated volunteers from organizations including shipbuilders, gear installation and alignment specialists, ship owners, ship designers, operators, Classification Society, Government organizations and others.

The new publication is identified as T&R Bulletin 3-43. It is a 33 page report issued electronically and may be ordered for \$40 (\$20 for SNAME members) through the SNAME web site (www.sname.org) or by contacting Michael Burgess at mburgess@sname.org or (703) 997-6714.