



AMERICA'S CUP CLASS

CONFIDENTIAL INTERPRETATION No 7

November 7, 2005

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In response to the following:

1. *Would there be any restrictions on the use of a pin that runs laterally through the mast without any contact to the mast, where its purpose is:*
 - a) *To counter lateral compression loads in the deck (rather than transferring this load around the mast collar), and/or*
 - b) *To provide support for the mast as part of a mast suspension system (without the pin itself bearing any loads of the mast where it passes through the mast)?*
2. *Would the mast suspension components be included in determining the minimum weight of the mast under ACC rule 25.2 provided the components are:*
 - a) *Affixed to the heel of the mast in a permanent manner (so that they would not be removed from the mast except for the purpose of reconstruction or repair), and*
 - b) *Part of the mast suspension system, and*
 - c) *Are attached at the upper end to points that are at or below the deck level when the mast is in place?*
3. *Would the mast suspension components described in question 2 be considered "Standing Rigging" and thus be required to be constructed of Nitronic 50 or equivalent approved by the Measurement Committee?*

INTERPRETATION

1. Yes, a pin that runs laterally through the mast without any contact to the mast would be restricted by the material requirements of Rule 36.10. Attention is also drawn to the requirements of rules 25.8 a, c, e & f.
2. No. Any mast suspension components that are at or below the deck level when the mast is in place are not considered to be part of the mast for measurement purposes even if they are fixed to the mast in a permanent manner and remain attached to the mast when it is removed from the yacht.
3. No.

END

This interpretation is made by the Measurement Committee in accordance with Rule 3.2 of Version 5.0 of the America's Cup Class Rule.

*Ken McAlpine
ACC Technical Director
117 Marine Terrace, Fremantle,
W.A. 6160 AUSTRALIA
Phone 61 8 9336 6664
Fax 61 8 9336 6665
Email kenmcalpine@compuserve.com*