

CHALLENGER OF RECORD & DEFENDER

AMERICA'S CUP 36

AC75 Interpretation 004

of

AC75 Class Rule Version 1.1 issued 29 June 2018

Rule References:

- 7.7 Construction of a **hull** must meet at least two of the following criteria (where the mould refers to the mould or moulds for at least 80% of the outside skin of the **hull surface**):
- (a) the mould plug is constructed of recyclable material (e.g. PET), with that plug being delivered to a recycling plant by 1st January 2021;
 - (b) the mould plug is constructed of recycled material;
 - (c) the mould plug is constructed of sustainably sourced material (e.g. timber);
 - (d) at least 10% of the total mass of carbon reinforcement used in the mould is from recycled sources;
 - (e) the mould is constructed from fibres with low embodied energy (e.g. basalt);
 - (f) a life-cycle analysis is performed on the **hull** to the satisfaction of the **Measurement Committee**.

Background:

The criteria (a), (b) and (c) in Rule 7.7 refer to the “mould plug”. Two of the criteria listed in Rule 7.7 must be satisfied. The words “plug” or “mould plug” are not defined and in the Oxford English Dictionary no suitable definition can be found.

We understand “mould plug” as being the plug or plugs being used to build the mould, where mould refers to the mould or moulds for at least 80% of the outside skin of the hull surface.

The reason behind Rule 7.7 is not written. Rule 7.7 (a), (b) and (c) enforce the usage of recyclable materials, recycled materials or sustainably sourced materials for the build of the mould plug. Thus, the rule is written to enforce some kind of sustainability for the construction of the mould plug. The best solution would be to avoid building a mould plug and hence not to use any material at all for a mould plug.

In the questions below the word “mould” refers always to the mould or moulds for at least 80% of the outside skin of the hull surface.

Questions:

1. Is our understanding of “mould plug” as mentioned above correct?
2. If the answer to 1/ is “NO”, can the Rules Committee provide guidance on the correct meaning of “mould plug”?
3. Is any of the Rules 7.7 (a), (b) or (c) automatically satisfied if a mould is built without building or using any mould plug?
4. If the answer to 3/ is “YES” can the Rules Committee provide guidance which points of Rule 7.7 are satisfied?
5. If a mould plug or mould plugs are used to build the mould is there a minimum requirement of the percentage of the mould surface that must be built from the mould plug or mould plugs?
6. If the answer to 5/ is “YES” can the Rules Committee provide guidance on the minimum percentage?

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Interpretation:

The assumption that the motivation of Rule 7.7 is written to include “some kind of a sustainability” is hypothetical, and thus not explicit.

By the wording of the Class Rule 7.7, criteria (a), (b), and (c) are not fulfilled, when NOT constructing a plug.

Answers:

1. Yes, when referring only to the second paragraph of “Background” above and the first paragraph of Rule 7.7 (“... where the mould refers to the mould or moulds for at least 80% of the outside skin of the hull surface”)
2. Not applicable
3. No, see second paragraph of “Interpretation” above.
4. Not applicable
5. A “mould plug” is understood to be used to build the mould from (see also answer 1.), so it shall refer the same magnitude of hull surface.
6. Not applicable