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TITLE 46--SHIPPING

Subtitle II--Vessels and Seamen

Part B--Inspection and Regulation of Vessels

CHAPTER 32--MANAGEMENT OF VESSELS

Sec. 3203. Safety management system

(a) In General.--The Secretary shall prescribe regulations which establish a safety management system for responsible persons and vessels to which this chapter applies, including--

- (1) a safety and environmental protection policy;
- (2) instructions and procedures to ensure safe operation of those vessels and protection of the environment in compliance with international and United States law;
- (3) defined levels of authority and lines of communications between, and among, personnel on shore and on the vessel;
- (4) procedures for reporting accidents and nonconformities with this chapter;
- (5) procedures for preparing for and responding to emergency situations; and
- (6) procedures for internal audits and management reviews of the system.

(b) Compliance With Code.--Regulations prescribed under this section shall be consistent with the International Safety Management Code with respect to vessels engaged on a foreign voyage.

(Added Pub. L. 104-324, title VI, Sec. 602(a), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3928.)

Section Referred to in Other Sections

This section is referred to in section 3204 of this title.