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TITLE 33--NAVIGATION AND NAVIGABLE WATERS

CHAPTER 33--PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS

Sec. 1903. Administration and enforcement

(a) Duty of Secretary; Annexes of Convention applicable to seagoing vessels

Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, the Secretary shall administer and enforce the MARPOL Protocol, Annex IV to the Antarctic Protocol, and this chapter. In the administration and enforcement of the MARPOL Protocol and this chapter, Annexes I and II of the Convention apply only to seagoing ships.

(b) Regulations; refuse record books; waste management plans; notification of crew and passengers

(1) The Secretary shall prescribe any necessary or desired regulations to carry out the provisions of the MARPOL Protocol, Annex IV to the Antarctic Protocol, or this chapter.

(2) The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall--

(A) prescribe regulations which--

(i) require certain ships described in section 1902(a)(1) of this title to maintain refuse record books and shipboard management plans, and to display placards which notify the crew and passengers of the requirements of Annex V to the Convention and of Annex IV to the Antarctic Protocol; and

(ii) specify the ships described in section 1902(a)(1) of this title to which the regulations apply;

(B) seek an international agreement or international agreements which apply requirements equivalent to those described in subparagraph (A)(i) to all vessels subject to Annex V to the Convention; and

(C) within 2 years after the effective date of this paragraph, report to the Congress--

(i) regarding activities of the Secretary under subparagraph (B); and

(ii) if the Secretary has not obtained agreements pursuant to subparagraph (B) regarding the desirability of applying the requirements described in subparagraph (A)(i) to all vessels described in section 1902(a) of this title which call at United States ports.

(c) Utilization of personnel, facilities, or equipment of other Federal departments and agencies

The Secretary may utilize by agreement, with or without reimbursement, personnel, facilities, or equipment of other Federal departments and agencies in administering the MARPOL Protocol, this chapter, or the regulations thereunder.

(Pub. L. 96-478, Sec. 4, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2298; Pub. L. 100-220, title II, Sec. 2107, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1464; Pub. L. 104-227,

title II, Sec. 201(c), Oct. 2, 1996, 110 Stat. 3042.)

References in Text

The effective date of this paragraph, referred to in subsec. (b)(2)(C), is Dec. 31, 1988, the effective date of section 2107(b) of Pub. L. 100-220 which added par. (2) to subsec. (b). See Effective Date of 1987 Amendment note below.

Amendments

1996--Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-227, Sec. 201(c)(1), inserted ``Annex IV to the Antarctic Protocol,'' after ``the MARPOL Protocol'' in first sentence.

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 104-227, Sec. 201(c)(2), inserted ``Annex IV to the Antarctic Protocol,'' after ``the MARPOL Protocol''.

Subsec. (b)(2)(A). Pub. L. 104-227, Sec. 201(c)(3), (4), struck out ``within 1 year after the effective date of this paragraph,'' before ``prescribe'' in introductory provisions and inserted ``and of Annex IV to the Antarctic Protocol'' after ``the Convention'' in cl. (i).

1987--Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-220, Sec. 2107(a), amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (a) read as follows: ``Unless otherwise specified herein, the Secretary shall administer and enforce the MARPOL Protocol and this chapter. In the administration and enforcement of the MARPOL Protocol and this chapter, Annexes I and II of the MARPOL Protocol shall be applicable only to seagoing ships.''

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-220, Sec. 2107(b), designated existing provisions as par. (1) and added par. (2).

Effective Date of 1987 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-220 effective Dec. 31, 1988, the date on which Annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, entered into force for the United States, see section 2002(a) of Pub. L. 100-220, set out as a note under section 1901 of this title.

Effective Date

Subsec. (b) of this section effective Oct. 21, 1980, see section 14(b) of Pub. L. 96-478, set out as a note under section 1901 of this title.

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TITLE 46--SHIPPING

Subtitle II--Vessels and Seamen

Part A--General Provisions

CHAPTER 21--GENERAL

Sec. 2103. Superintendence of the merchant marine

The Secretary has general superintendence over the merchant marine of the United States and of merchant marine personnel insofar as the enforcement of this subtitle is concerned and insofar as those vessels and personnel are not subject, under other law, to the supervision of another official of the United States Government. In the interests of marine safety and seamen's welfare, the Secretary shall enforce this subtitle and shall carry out correctly and uniformly administer this subtitle. The Secretary may prescribe regulations to carry out the provisions of this subtitle.

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 506; Pub. L. 99-307, Sec. 9, May 19, 1986, 100 Stat. 447.)

Historical and Revision Notes

Revised section	Source section (U.S. Code)
2103.....	46:2 46:372 46:689

Section 2103 provides the Secretary with the authority to superintend the merchant marine and those involved personnel insofar as the vessels and personnel are not subject, under other laws, to the supervision of another official. The Secretary has the duty to enforce the laws with respect to vessels and seamen and to carry out correctly and uniformly these laws and regulations. The term ``superintendence'' is used to indicate the Secretary's broad responsibility for overseeing maritime safety and seamen's welfare, including employment, shipping, navigation, and protection of the marine environment.

Amendments

1986--Pub. L. 99-307 substituted ``subtitle. The Secretary may prescribe regulations to carry out the provisions of this subtitle'' for ``subtitle and regulations prescribed under this subtitle''.

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[CITE: **46USC3306**]

TITLE 46--SHIPPING

Subtitle II--Vessels and Seamen

Part B--Inspection and Regulation of Vessels

CHAPTER 33--INSPECTION GENERALLY

Sec. 3306. Regulations

(a) To carry out this part and to secure the safety of individuals and property on board vessels subject to inspection, the Secretary shall prescribe necessary regulations to ensure the proper execution of, and to carry out, this part in the most effective manner for--

(1) the design, construction, alteration, repair, and operation of those vessels, including superstructures, hulls, fittings, equipment, appliances, propulsion machinery, auxiliary machinery, boilers, unfired pressure vessels, piping, electric installations, and accommodations for passengers and crew, sailing school instructors, and sailing school students;

(2) lifesaving equipment and its use;

(3) firefighting equipment, its use, and precautionary measures to guard against fire;

(4) inspections and tests related to paragraphs (1), (2), and

(3) of this subsection; and

(5) the use of vessel stores and other supplies of a dangerous nature.

(b) (1) Equipment and material subject to regulation under this section may not be used on any vessel without prior approval of the Secretary.

(2) Except with respect to use on a public vessel, the Secretary may treat an approval of equipment or materials by a foreign government as approval by the Secretary for purposes of paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that--

(A) the design standards and testing procedures used by that government meet the requirements of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974;

(B) the approval of the equipment or material by the foreign government will secure the safety of individuals and property on board vessels subject to inspection; and

(C) for lifesaving equipment, the foreign government--

(i) has given equivalent treatment to approvals of lifesaving equipment by the Secretary; and

(ii) otherwise ensures that lifesaving equipment approved by the Secretary may be used on vessels that are documented and subject to inspection under the laws of that country.

(c) In prescribing regulations for sailing school vessels, the Secretary shall consult with representatives of the private sector having experience in the operation of vessels likely to be certificated as sailing school vessels. The regulations shall--

(1) reflect the specialized nature of sailing school vessel operations, and the character, design, and construction of vessels operating as sailing school vessels; and

(2) include requirements for notice to sailing school instructors and sailing school students about the specialized nature

of sailing school vessels and applicable safety regulations.

(d) In prescribing regulations for nautical school vessels operated by the United States Merchant Marine Academy or by a State maritime academy (as defined in section 1302(3) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 App. U.S.C. 1295a(3))), the Secretary shall consider the function, purpose, and operation of the vessels, their routes, and the number of individuals who may be carried on the vessels.

(e) When the Secretary finds it in the public interest, the Secretary may suspend or grant exemptions from the requirements of a regulation prescribed under this section related to lifesaving and firefighting equipment, muster lists, ground tackle and hawsers, and bilge systems.

(f) In prescribing regulations for offshore supply vessels, the Secretary shall consider the characteristics, methods of operation, and the nature of the service of offshore supply vessels.

(g) In prescribing regulations for fish processing or fish tender vessels, the Secretary shall consult with representatives of the private sector having experience in the operation of these vessels. The regulations shall reflect the specialized nature and economics of fish processing or fish tender vessel operations and the character, design, and construction of fish processing or fish tender vessels.

(h) The Secretary shall establish appropriate structural fire protection, manning, operating, and equipment requirements for vessels of at least 100 gross tons but less than 300 gross tons as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title carrying not more than 150 passengers on domestic voyages, which meet the eligibility criteria of section 2113(4) of this title.

(i) The Secretary shall establish appropriate structural fire protection, manning, operating, and equipment requirements for former public vessels of the United States of at least 100 gross tons but less than 500 gross tons as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title carrying not more than 150 passengers on domestic voyages, which meet the eligibility criteria of section 2113(5) of this title.

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 513; Pub. L. 98-364, title IV, Sec. 402(5), July 17, 1984, 98 Stat. 446; Pub. L. 103-206, title V, Sec. 512(a), Dec. 20, 1993, 107 Stat. 2442; Pub. L. 104-324, title VI, Sec. 604(a), (c), title VII, Sec. 712, Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3930, 3931, 3936.)

Historical and Revision Notes

Revised section	Source section (U.S. Code)
3306.....	46:366
	46:369
	46:375
	46:390b
	46:392
	46:404
	46:408
	46:411
	46:412
	46:416
	46:420
	46:445
	46:459
	46:473
	46:477
	46:478

46:479
46:481
46:482
46:483
46:489
46:526p
46:1295f(c)

Section 3306 contains broad authority to prescribe regulations for the proper inspection and certification of vessels. It provides regulatory flexibility for meeting technological changes. The section also permits flexibility in prescribing regulations for nautical school vessels operated by the United States Merchant Marine Academy or by a State maritime academy. The Secretary may suspend or grant exemptions to certain limited inspection requirements when the Secretary finds that this is necessary in the public interest. It also contains the requirement that in regulating offshore supply vessels consideration must be given to the special nature of their operations.

Amendments

1996--Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 104-324, Sec. 604(c), substituted ``paragraphs (1), (2), and (3)'' for ``clauses (1)-(3)''.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-324, Sec. 604(a), amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) read as follows: ``Equipment subject to regulation under this section may not be used on any vessel without prior approval as prescribed by regulation.''

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 104-324, Sec. 712(1), inserted ``as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title'' after ``300 gross tons''.

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 104-324, Sec. 712(2), inserted ``as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title'' after ``500 gross tons''.

1993--Subsecs. (h), (i). Pub. L. 103-206 added subsecs. (h) and (i).

1984--Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 98-364 added subsec. (g).

Regulations

Section 512(b), (c) of Pub. L. 103-206 provided that:

``(b) The Secretary of Transportation shall, within twenty-four months of the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 1993], prescribe regulations establishing the structural fire protection, manning, operating, and equipment requirements for vessels which meet the requirements of subsections (h) and (i) of section 3306 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by this Act.

``(c) Before the Secretary of Transportation prescribes regulations under subsections (h) and (i) of section 3306 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by this Act, the Secretary may prescribe the route, service, manning, and equipment for those vessels based on existing passenger vessel and small passenger vessel regulations.''

Foreign Approvals

Section 604(b) of Pub. L. 104-324 provided that: ``The Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with other interested Federal agencies, shall work with foreign governments to have those governments approve the use of the same equipment and materials on vessels documented under the laws of those countries that the Secretary requires on United States documented vessels.''

International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea

For International Conventions for the Safety of Life at Sea to which the United States has been a party, see section 1602 of Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters, and notes thereunder.

Section Referred to in Other Sections

This section is referred to in sections 3313, 3318 of this title.

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TITLE 46--SHIPPING

Subtitle II--Vessels and Seamen

Part B--Inspection and Regulation of Vessels

CHAPTER 37--CARRIAGE OF LIQUID BULK DANGEROUS CARGOES

Sec. 3703. Regulations

(a) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations for the design, construction, alteration, repair, maintenance, operation, equipping, personnel qualification, and manning of vessels to which this chapter applies, that may be necessary for increased protection against hazards to life and property, for navigation and vessel safety, and for enhanced protection of the marine environment. The Secretary may prescribe different regulations applicable to vessels engaged in the domestic trade, and also may prescribe regulations that exceed standards set internationally. Regulations prescribed by the Secretary under this subsection are in addition to regulations prescribed under other laws that may apply to any of those vessels. Regulations prescribed under this subsection shall include requirements about--

- (1) superstructures, hulls, cargo holds or tanks, fittings, equipment, appliances, propulsion machinery, auxiliary machinery, and boilers;
- (2) the handling or stowage of cargo, the manner of handling or stowage of cargo, and the machinery and appliances used in the handling or stowage;
- (3) equipment and appliances for lifesaving, fire protection, and prevention and mitigation of damage to the marine environment;
- (4) the manning of vessels and the duties, qualifications, and training of the officers and crew;
- (5) improvements in vessel maneuvering and stopping ability and other features that reduce the possibility of marine casualties;
- (6) the reduction of cargo loss if a marine casualty occurs; and
- (7) the reduction or elimination of discharges during ballasting, deballasting, tank cleaning, cargo handling, or other such activity.

(b) In prescribing regulations under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall consider the types and grades of cargo permitted to be on board a tank vessel.

(c) In prescribing regulations under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall establish procedures for consulting with, and receiving and considering the views of--

- (1) interested departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States Government;
- (2) officials of State and local governments;
- (3) representatives of port and harbor authorities and associations;
- (4) representatives of environmental groups; and
- (5) other interested parties knowledgeable or experienced in

dealing with problems involving vessel safety, port and waterways safety, and protection of the marine environment.

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 522.)

Historical and Revision Notes

Revised section	Source section (U.S. Code)
3703.....	46:391a(6) 46:391a(12)

Section 3703 requires the Secretary to issue regulations to implement this section. Specific items are listed to be included within the regulations issued. The regulatory authority must be exercised under the Administrative Procedure Act and, in prescribing these regulations, the Secretary must consider the kinds and grades of cargo carried on board. Furthermore, in addition to any requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, the Secretary must establish specific consultation procedures for considering the views of various specified interested officials, groups, and individuals. The procedures are intended to provide for consultation as early as possible in the regulatory process.

Studies Addressing Various Sources of Oil Spill Risk

Pub. L. 104-324, title IX, Sec. 903, Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3947, provided that:

- ``(a) Study of Group-5 Fuel Oil Spills.--
 - ``(1) Definition.--In this subsection, the term `group-5 fuel oil' means a petroleum-based oil that has a specific gravity of greater than 1.0.
 - ``(2) Coordination of study.--The Secretary of Transportation shall coordinate with the Marine Board of the National Research Council to conduct a study of the relative environmental and public health risks posed by discharges of group-5 fuel oil.
 - ``(3) Matters to be included.--The study under this subsection shall include a review and analysis of--
 - ``(A) the specific risks posed to the public health or welfare of the United States, including fish, shellfish and wildlife, public and private property, shorelines, beaches, habitat, and other natural resources under the jurisdiction or control of the United States, as a result of an actual or threatened discharge of group-5 fuel oil from a vessel or facility;
 - ``(B) cleanup technologies currently available to address actual or threatened discharge of group-5 fuel oil; and
 - ``(C) any technological and financial barriers that prevent the prompt remediation of discharges of group-5 fuel oil.
 - ``(4) Report.--Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 19, 1996], the Secretary of Transportation shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the results of the study under this subsection.
 - ``(5) Rulemaking.--If the Secretary of Transportation determines, based on the results of the study under this subsection,

that there are significant risks to public health or the environment resulting from the actual or threatened discharge of group-5 fuel oil from a vessel or facility that cannot be technologically or economically addressed by existing or anticipated cleanup efforts, the Secretary may initiate a rulemaking to take such action as is necessary to abate the threat.

``(b) Study of Automatic Fueling Shutoff Equipment.--

``(1) Coordination of study.--The Secretary of Transportation shall coordinate with the Marine Board of the National Research Council to conduct a study of the unintentional or accidental discharge of fuel oil during lightering or fuel loading or off-loading activity.

``(2) Matters to be included.--The study under this subsection shall include a review and analysis of current monitoring and fueling practices to determine the need for automatic fuel shutoff equipment to prevent the accidental discharge of fuel oil, and whether such equipment is needed as a supplement to or replacement of existing preventive equipment or procedures.

``(3) Report.--Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 19, 1996], the Secretary of Transportation shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the results of the study under this subsection.

``(4) Rulemaking.--If the Secretary of Transportation determines, based on the results of the study conducted under this subsection, that the use of automatic oil shutoff equipment is necessary to prevent the actual or threatened discharge of oil during lightering or fuel loading or off[-]loading activity, the Secretary may initiate a rulemaking to take such action as is necessary to abate a threat to public health or the environment.

``(c) Lightering Study.--The Secretary of Transportation shall coordinate with the Marine Board of the National Research Council on a study into the actual incidence and risk of oil spills from lightering operations off the coast of the United States. Among other things, the study shall address the manner in which existing regulations are serving to reduce oil spill risks. The study shall take into account current or proposed international rules and standards and also include recommendations on measures that would be likely to further reduce the risks of oil spills from lightering operations. Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 19, 1996], the Secretary shall submit a report on the study to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.''

Existing Tank Vessel Research

Pub. L. 104-324, title XI, Sec. 1134, Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3985, provided that:

``(a) Funding.--The Secretary of Transportation shall take steps to allocate funds appropriated for research, development, testing, and evaluation, including the combination of funds from any source available and authorized for this purpose, to ensure that any Government-sponsored project intended to evaluate double hull alternatives that provide equal or greater protection to the marine environment, or interim solutions to remediate potential environmental damage resulting from oil spills from existing tank vessels, commenced prior to the date of enactment of this section [Oct. 19, 1996], is fully funded for completion by the end of

fiscal year 1997. Any vessel construction or repair necessary to carry out the purpose of this section must be performed in a shipyard located in the United States.

``(b) Use of Public Vessels.--The Secretary may provide vessels owned by, or demise chartered to, and operated by the Government and not engaged in commercial service, without reimbursement, for use in and the support of projects sponsored by the Government for research, development, testing, evaluation, and demonstration of new or improved technologies that are effective in preventing or mitigating oil discharges and protecting the environment.''

Oil Spill Prevention and Response Technology Test and Evaluation Program

Pub. L. 103-206, title III, Sec. 310, Dec. 20, 1993, 107 Stat. 2425, provided that:

``(a) Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 1993], the Secretary of Transportation shall establish a program to evaluate the technological feasibility and environmental benefits of having tank vessels carry oil spill prevention and response technology. To implement the program the Secretary shall--

``(1) publish in the Federal Register an invitation for submission of proposals including plans and procedures for testing; and

``(2) review and evaluate technology using, to the maximum extent possible, existing evaluation and performance standards.

``(b) The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent possible, incorporate in the program established in subsection (a), the results of existing studies and evaluations of oil spill prevention and response technology carried on tank vessels.

``(c) Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 1993], the Secretary shall evaluate the results of the program established in subsection (a) and submit a report to Congress with recommendations on the feasibility and environmental benefits of, and appropriate equipment and utilization standards for, requiring tank vessels to carry oil spill prevention and response equipment.

``(d) Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 1993], the Secretary shall evaluate and report to the Congress on the feasibility of using segregated ballast tanks for emergency transfer of cargo and storage of recovered oil.''

Regulations Requiring Periodic Gauging of Plating Thickness for Oil Carrying Commercial Vessels

Pub. L. 101-380, title IV, Sec. 4109, Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 515, provided that: ``Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 18, 1990], the Secretary shall issue regulations for vessels constructed or adapted to carry, or that carry, oil in bulk as cargo or cargo residue--

``(1) establishing minimum standards for plating thickness; and

``(2) requiring, consistent with generally recognized principles of international law, periodic gauging of the plating thickness of all such vessels over 30 years old operating on the navigable waters or the waters of the exclusive economic zone.''

Regulations Requiring Use of Overfill and Tank Level or Monitoring Devices on Oil Carrying Commercial Vessels

Pub. L. 101-380, title IV, Sec. 4110, Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 515, provided that:

``(a) Standards.--Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 18, 1990], the Secretary shall establish, by regulation, minimum standards for devices for warning persons of overfills and tank levels of oil in cargo tanks and devices for monitoring the pressure of oil cargo tanks.

``(b) Use.--Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 18, 1990], the Secretary shall issue regulations establishing, consistent with generally recognized principles of international law, requirements concerning the use of--

``(1) overfill devices, and

``(2) tank level or pressure monitoring devices, which are referred to in subsection (a) and which meet the standards established by the Secretary under subsection (a), on vessels constructed or adapted to carry, or that carry, oil in bulk as cargo or cargo residue on the navigable waters and the waters of the exclusive economic zone.''

Tanker Navigation Safety Standards Study

Pub. L. 101-380, title IV, Sec. 4111, Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 515, directed Secretary, not later than 2 years after Aug. 18, 1990, to conduct a study and report to Congress on whether existing laws and regulations are adequate to ensure safe navigation of vessels transporting oil or hazardous substances in bulk on navigable waters and waters of the exclusive economic zone.

Rules Governing Operation of Vessels on Auto-Pilot or With Unattended Engine Room

Pub. L. 101-380, title IV, Sec. 4114(a), Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 517, provided that: ``In order to protect life, property, and the environment, the Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding within 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 18, 1990] to define the conditions under, and designate the waters upon, which tank vessels subject to section 3703 of title 46, United States Code, may operate in the navigable waters with the auto-pilot engaged or with an unattended engine room.''

Regulations Requiring Escorts for Certain Tankers; ``Tanker'' Defined

Pub. L. 101-380, title IV, Sec. 4116(c), (d), Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 523, provided that:

``(c) Escorts for Certain Tankers.--Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 18, 1990], the Secretary shall initiate issuance of regulations under section 3703(a)(3) of title 46, United States Code, to define those areas, including Prince William Sound, Alaska, and Rosario Strait and Puget Sound, Washington (including those portions of the Strait of Juan de Fuca east of Port Angeles, Haro Strait, and the Strait of Georgia subject to United States jurisdiction), on which single hulled tankers over 5,000 gross tons transporting oil in bulk shall be escorted by at least two towing vessels (as defined under section 2101 of title 46, United States Code) or other vessels considered appropriate by the Secretary.

``(d) Tanker Defined.--In this section [amending section 8502 of this title] the term `tanker' has the same meaning the term has in

section 2101 of title 46, United States Code.''

Section Referred to in Other Sections

This section is referred to in title 42 section 7511b.

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TITLE 46--SHIPPING

Subtitle II--Vessels and Seamen

Part F--Manning of Vessels

CHAPTER 91--TANK VESSEL MANNING STANDARDS

Sec. 9101. Standards for foreign tank vessels

(a)(1) The Secretary shall evaluate the manning, training, qualification, and watchkeeping standards of a foreign country that issues documentation for any vessel to which chapter 37 of this title applies--

- (A) on a periodic basis; and
- (B) when the vessel is involved in a marine casualty required to be reported under section 6101(a)(4) or (5) of this title.

(2) After each evaluation made under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Secretary shall determine whether--

- (A) the foreign country has standards for licensing and certification of seamen that are at least equivalent to United States law or international standards accepted by the United States; and
- (B) those standards are being enforced.

(3) If the Secretary determines under this subsection that a country has failed to maintain or enforce standards at least equivalent to United States law or international standards accepted by the United States, the Secretary shall prohibit vessels issued documentation by that country from entering the United States until the Secretary determines those standards have been established and are being enforced.

(4) The Secretary may allow provisional entry of a vessel prohibited from entering the United States under paragraph (3) of this subsection if--

- (A) the owner or operator of the vessel establishes, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, that the vessel is not unsafe or a threat to the marine environment; or
- (B) the entry is necessary for the safety of the vessel or individuals on the vessel.

(b) A foreign vessel to which chapter 37 of this title applies that has on board oil or hazardous material in bulk as cargo or cargo residue shall have a specified number of personnel certified as tankerman or equivalent, as required by the Secretary, when the vessel transfers oil or hazardous material in a port or place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. The requirement of this subsection shall be noted in applicable terminal operating procedures. A transfer operation may take place only if the crewmember in charge is capable of clearly understanding instructions in English.

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 556; Pub. L. 101-380, title IV,

Sec. 4106(a), Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 513.)

Historical and Revision Notes

Revised section	Source section (U.S. Code)
9101(a).....	46:391a(11)
9101(b).....	46:391a(10)(B)

Section 9101 requires monitoring of manning standards for foreign tank vessels operating on the navigable waters of the United States and transferring oil or hazardous material in the United States.

Subsection (a) requires the Secretary of Transportation to evaluate the manning, training, qualification, and watchkeeping standards of foreign countries whose tank vessels operate on United States waters, or use transfer facilities, and to decide if the standards are equivalent or more stringent than United States standards.

Subsection (b) authorizes the Secretary to specify the number of tankermen required on a foreign tank vessel and to have certified tankermen who can understand English when transferring oil or hazardous material in the United States. This requirement is to be made part of the terminal operating procedures.

Amendments

1990--Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-380 amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (a) read as follows: ``The Secretary shall--

``(1) periodically evaluate the manning, training, qualification, and watchkeeping standards prescribed by the certificating country of a foreign vessel to which chapter 37 of this title applies, that operates on the navigable waters of the United States and transfers oil or hazardous material in a port or place under the jurisdiction of the United States; and

``(2) after each evaluation made under clause (1) of this subsection, decide whether the foreign country, whose system for licensing and certification of seamen was evaluated, has standards that are equivalent to or more stringent than United States standards or international standards accepted by the United States.''

Effective Date of 1990 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 101-380 applicable to incidents occurring after Aug. 18, 1990, see section 1020 of Pub. L. 101-380, set out as an Effective Date note under section 2701 of Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters.

Section Referred to in Other Sections

This section is referred to in title 33 section 1228.

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TITLE 49--TRANSPORTATION

SUBTITLE III--GENERAL AND INTERMODAL PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 51--TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL

Sec. 5101. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to provide adequate protection against the risks to life and property inherent in the transportation of hazardous material in commerce by improving the regulatory and enforcement authority of the Secretary of Transportation.

(Pub. L. 103-272, Sec. 1(d), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 759.)

Historical and Revision Notes

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Sour
5101.....	49 App.:1801.	Jan. 3, 197 102, 88 St

The words ``It is declared to be the policy of Congress'', ``the Nation'', and ``which are'' are omitted as surplus.

Short Title of 1998 Amendment

Pub. L. 105-178, title III, Sec. 3001, June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 338, provided that: ``This title [amending sections 5302 to 5305, 5307 to 5315, 5317 to 5320, 5323, 5325 to 5328, and 5333 to 5338 of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 301, 5301, 5307 to 5310, 5323, 5336, and 5338 of this title and sections 138 and 322 of Title 23, Highways] may be cited as the `Federal Transit Act of 1998'.''

Short Title of 1996 Amendment

Pub. L. 104-291, title II, Sec. 201, Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3453, provided that: ``This title [enacting section 5908 of this title and amending sections 5901 to 5903 and 5905 to 5907 of this title] may be cited as the `Intermodal Safe Container Transportation Amendments Act of 1996'.''

Short Title of 1994 Amendment

Pub. L. 103-311, title I, Sec. 101, Aug. 26, 1994, 108 Stat. 1673, provided that: ``This title [amending sections 5102 to 5104, 5107, 5108, 5110, 5116, 5117, 5121, and 5125 to 5127 of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section, sections 5103, 5112, and

5121 of this title, and section 307 of Title 23, Highways] may be cited as the `Hazardous Materials Transportation Authorization Act of 1994'.'

Buy American

Pub. L. 103-311, title I, Sec. 123, Aug. 26, 1994, 108 Stat. 1682, provided that:

``(a) Compliance With Buy American Act.--None of the funds made available under this title [see Short Title of 1994 Amendment note above] may be expended in violation of sections 2 through 4 of the Act of March 3, 1933 (41 U.S.C. 10a-10c [41 U.S.C. 10a, 10b, former 10b-1]; popularly known as the `Buy American Act'), which are applicable to those funds.

``(b) Sense of Congress; Requirement Regarding Notice.--

``(1) In the case of any equipment or products that may be authorized to be purchased with financial assistance provided under this title, it is the sense of Congress that entities receiving such assistance should, in expending such assistance, purchase only American-made equipment and products.

``(2) In providing financial assistance under this title, the Secretary of Transportation shall provide to each recipient of the assistance a notice describing the statement made in paragraph (1) by Congress.

``(c) Prohibition of Contracts.--If it has been finally determined by a court or Federal agency that any person intentionally affixed a label bearing a `Made in America' inscription, or any inscription with the same meaning, to any product sold in or shipped to the United States that is not made in the United States, such person shall be ineligible to receive any contract or subcontract made with funds provided pursuant to this title, pursuant to the debarment, suspension, and ineligibility procedures described in sections 9.400 through 9.409 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations.

``(d) Reciprocity.--

``(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), no contract or subcontract may be made with funds authorized under this title to a company organized under the laws of a foreign country unless the Secretary of Transportation finds that such country affords comparable opportunities to companies organized under laws of the United States.

``(2)(A) The Secretary of Transportation may waive the provisions of paragraph (1) if the products or services required are not reasonably available from companies organized under the laws of the United States. Any such waiver shall be reported to Congress.

``(B) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the extent that to do so would violate the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade or any other international agreement to which the United States is a party.'

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TITLE 49--TRANSPORTATION

SUBTITLE III--GENERAL AND INTERMODAL PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 51--TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL

Sec. 5106. Handling criteria

The Secretary of Transportation may prescribe criteria for handling hazardous material, including--

- (1) a minimum number of personnel;
- (2) minimum levels of training and qualifications for personnel;
- (3) the kind and frequency of inspections;
- (4) equipment for detecting, warning of, and controlling risks posed by the hazardous material;
- (5) specifications for the use of equipment and facilities used in handling and transporting the hazardous material; and
- (6) a system of monitoring safety procedures for transporting the hazardous material.

(Pub. L. 103-272, Sec. 1(d), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 763.)

Historical and Revision Notes

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Sour
5106.....	49 App.:1805(a).	Jan. 3, 197 106(a), 88

Before clause (1), the text of 49 App.:1805(a) (last sentence) is omitted as being included in ``prescribe''. In clause (4), the words ``to be used'' are omitted as surplus. In clause (6), the word ``assurance'' is omitted as surplus.

Section Referred to in Other Sections

This section is referred to in section 5107 of this title; title 8 section 1288.