

SPV STABILITY REQUIREMENTS

REFERENCE: (a) 46 CFR 178.230
(b) 46 CFR 178.330
(c) Marine Safety Manual, Volume IV, 6.D

**DIRECTIVES
AFFECTED:** CIDIG MEMO #3 dated 12Apr94 is superceded.

BASIC REQUIREMENT: Reference (a) contains the regulations for intact stability of SPVs less than 65 feet (19.8 meters), carrying 150 passengers or less on a domestic voyage, carrying 12 passengers or less on an international voyage, and having only one deck above the bulkhead deck, exclusive of a pilothouse. These regulations require all vessels meeting any of the above criteria to undergo a stability test outlined in reference (b), unless their stability is not questioned by the OCMI. It has been longstanding policy that **all** inspected SPVs operating in this zone must demonstrate satisfactory stability prior to certification.

STABILITY LETTERS: A stability letter will be issued to a vessel when it completes one of the following options:

- Undergoes a satisfactory simplified stability test, or
- Qualifies as a 'sister vessel' IAW ref. (c) to a vessel that has a stability letter, or
- Provides evidence of satisfactory operation for at least five years under similar conditions to those being requested.

CONDUCTING TEST: When conducting a simplified stability test, the test should be for the maximum number of passengers and/or most stringent route possible. This will prevent having to repeat a test on a vessel because of a subsequent increase in passengers or route.
