

U.S. Department of Transportation

United States Coast Guard



Commandant United States Coast Guard

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From: Commandant  
To: Distribution

**SHORE CONNECTION; EQUIVALENCY FOR CERTAIN VESSELS**

- (a) 33 CFR 155.410(a)(3)
- (b) 33 CFR 155.420(a)(3)
- (c) 33 CFR 155.430
- (d) 33 CFR 155.120

1. Feedback received by boarding officers in our voluntary dockside examination initiatives suggests that the international type shore connector required by references (a) and (b) may not be appropriate for all vessels. Instead of the MARPOL convention derived metric shore connection described in reference (c), many uninspected vessels are equipped with a 1.5 inch quick connect fitting. This fitting has been described as an "industry standard" for these vessels. Although they are not in technical compliance with the standard, they meet the intent of the rule by having a connector which is compatible with discharge facilities in their area of operation.

2. Accordingly, under the authority of reference (d), a 1.5 inch quick connect fitting is accepted as equivalent to the shore connector required by references (a) and (b) subject to the following:

a. This equivalency is limited to those vessels operating exclusively in U.S. domestic service.

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b. The vessel's oil transfer procedures, if required, reflect the use of an equivalent connector.

3. This equivalence does not apply to vessels in international service nor to oceangoing vessels of 400 or more gross tons.

*J. E. Schrunner*  
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By direction

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