



United States Coast Guard
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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN (MSIB) 01-13

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Inspection and Certification of Vessels Under the Maritime Security Program (MSP)

Title VI of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936, as amended by the Maritime Security Act of 1996, authorized the establishment of a Maritime Security Fleet under the Maritime Security Program (MSP). On February 28, 2013, the USCG announced the availability of the Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 01-13, Inspection and Certification of Vessels Under the Maritime Security Program (MSP). This guidance may be reviewed at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/nvic/2010s.asp> and applies to the following categories of existing vessels:

1. Foreign flag vessels eligible for a Certificate of Inspection (COI) issued by the USCG under the provisions of Title 46 U.S. Code 53102, or a voluntary sealift support program.
2. Certificated U.S. vessels that obtained an initial COI under the provisions of MSP.

The NVIC sets forth the Coast Guard's policies and procedures regarding the inspection and certification of vessels under the MSP while establishing two levels of inspection and oversight, MSP (regular) and MSP Select. MSP (regular) mirrors traditional USCG inspection while the MSP Select is similar to the Alternate Compliance Program described in NVIC 2-95, CH 2, where Authorized Classification Societies are delegated to perform inspections and surveys on behalf of the Coast Guard.

Enrollment into MSP Select is contingent on a period of satisfactory service, a review of the vessel's inspection history, a satisfactory hand-over survey, and a positive endorsement from the cognizant Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection. MSP vessel operators interested in this program may contact Activities Far East to confirm eligibility and request hand-over surveys. For additional information or clarification regarding this Bulletin, please contact Chief Warrant Officer Michael Coleman at the above number or address, or email feactinspections@uscg.mil.

A blue ink signature of M. J. McCadden, written in a cursive style.

M. J. MCCADDEN
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection