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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 12- 03

April 10, 2003

**MARINE CASUALTIES AND INVESTIGATION; CHEMICAL TESTING FOLLOWING A
SERIOUS MARINE INCIDENT**

The following is a proposed rulemaking for the uninspected fishing, towing, & passenger industry. The Coast Guard proposes changing the alcohol testing requirements for commercial vessels following a serious marine incident, (46 CFR 4.03-2). The 1998 Coast Guard Authorization Act requires the Coast Guard to establish procedures ensuring alcohol testing is conducted within two hours of a serious marine casualty. The Coast Guard proposes to establish requirements for testing within the statutory time limits, to expand the existing requirements for commercial vessels to have alcohol-testing devices on board, and to authorize use of a wider variety of testing devices. This rulemaking would also make additional minor procedural changes to 46 CFR Part 4, including a time limit for conducting drug testing following a serious marine incident.

Comments and related material must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before June 30, 2003. Comments sent to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on collection of information must reach OMB on or before April 29, 2003. This notice of proposed rule making is found under Docket # USCG-2001-8773.

To ensure that your comments and related material are not entered more than once in the docket, please submit them by only one of the following means:

- (1) By mail to the Docket Management Facility (USCG-2001-8773), U.S. Department of Transportation, room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.
- (2) By delivery to room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.
- (3) By fax to the Docket Management Facility at 202-493-2251.
- (4) Electronically through the Web Site for the Docket Management System at

<http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/leaving.cgi?from=leavingFR.html&log=linklog&to=http://dms.dot.gov>.

If you have questions on this proposed rule, call Mr. Robert C. Schoening, Coast Guard, at 202-267-0684 or would like an on line copy of this proposed rule: dms.dot.gov/reports/fr.htm

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