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U.S. COAST GUARD
MSO St. Louis



Marine Safety Information Bulletin #02-06

This bulletin is used purely for informational purposes to assist the maritime community within the Marine Safety Office St. Louis Area of Responsibility. Its purpose is to advise relevant parties of emerging information & situations that may impact our Marine Transportation System as well as facilitates cooperation among the involved parties regarding actions that we may be taking and/or that you may need to employ in the interest of safety/security.

Chemical Testing Following Serious Marine Incidents

January 19, 2006

On June 20, 2006, new requirements for post serious marine incident chemical and alcohol testing will become effective. These new requirements may be found in 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 4.06-3, "Requirements of Alcohol and Drug Testing Following a Serious Marine Incident". The following are the changes to these requirements:

- Marine employers will be required to ensure that each employee involved in a serious marine incident is tested for alcohol use within two (2) hours of the occurrence;
- Commercial vessels operating in areas that the required alcohol testing cannot be completed by an outside source in the required time, must carry an alcohol testing device onboard; and
- The collection of drug test specimens of each individual must be conducted within 32 hours of when the serious marine incident occurred.

Any questions regarding this information bulletin may be addressed to the Prevention and Compliance Section, MSO St. Louis at (314) 539-3091 ext. 3501. A link to the Thursday, December 22, 2005 Federal Register, where this final rule appears, may be found at: http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/pdf84/235088_web.pdf.

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