

# MSC Guidelines for Review of Tankship General Arrangements

Procedure Number: T1-22

Revision Date: 01/14/00

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## References

- a. 46 CFR Subchapter D
- b. 33 CFR Part 157, Rules for the Protection of the Marine Environment Relating to Tank Vessels Carrying Oil in Bulk
- c. International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, and its Protocol of 1978 (SOLAS), as amended
- d. International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by its Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL 73/78), as amended
- e. Marine Safety Manual, Vol II, Chapter 33
- f. 33 CFR 151 and 155
- g. G-M policy letter dated February 24, 1995; OPA 90 Cargoes

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## Disclaimer

These guidelines were developed by the Marine Safety Center staff as an aid in the preparation and review of vessel plans and submissions. They were developed to supplement existing guidance. They are not intended to substitute or replace laws, regulations, or other official Coast Guard policy documents. The responsibility to demonstrate compliance with all applicable laws and regulations still rests with the plan submitter. The Coast Guard and the U. S. Department of Transportation expressly disclaim liability resulting from the use of this document.

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## Contact Information

If you have any questions or comments concerning this document, please contact the Marine Safety Center by e-mail or phone. Please refer to the Procedure Number: **T1-22**

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## General Review Guidance

- If the vessel is new and not a sister vessel, has the Application for Inspection been submitted? In general, no plan review will occur until receipt of a copy of the Application.
- Is it clearly stated what is desired from the MSC? Are all plans requiring Coast Guard review and/or approval submitted in triplicate? Are there any special or unusual requests involved?

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- Verify the applicability of regulations per 33 CFR 157.01 and 157.08, and 46 CFR 30.01-5. Requests for SOLAS certificates require compliance with reference (c), and IOPP certificates require compliance with MARPOL 73/78, reference (d). (Reference (g) lists cargoes that are defined as oil, and therefore subject to OPA 90 requirements in 33 CFR Part 157.)
- Are all spaces identified and designated on the plan?
- Double Bottom
  - A double bottom shall be fitted in accordance with 33 CFR 157.10d(c)(2) and/or SOLAS Chapter II-1, Regulation 12-1.
- Double Side
  - A double side shall be fitted in accordance with with 33 CFR 157.10d.
- Size and arrangements of cargo tanks
  - Ensure that the size and arrangement of cargo tanks are compliant. For an oil tanker operated only on domestic voyages, use the criteria in 33 CFR 157.19, Appendix A.4-5. For a tanker operated on domestic and international voyages, use the criteria in MARPOL 73/78, Regulation 24 (Note: domestic and international criteria are identical).
- Peak and Machinery Space Bulkheads
  - Verify compliance with the location of the collision bulkhead and other requirements per SOLAS Ch. II-1, Regulation 11.
- Safe access to tanker bows. SOLAS Chapter II-1, Part A-1, Regulation 3-3
- Ensure that the access to spaces in the cargo area meet the requirements of SOLAS II-1, Regulation 12-2.
- Means of Escape
  - Two means of escape must be provided from accommodations, spaces normally manned, and machinery spaces, as required by 46 CFR 32.02-1 and SOLAS Chapter II-2, Regulation 45.
- Location of Spaces
  - Accommodation spaces, main cargo control stations, control stations and service spaces shall be positioned aft of all cargo tanks, slop tanks, and spaces which isolate cargo or slop tanks from machinery spaces, in accordance with 46 CFR 32.56 and SOLAS Chapter II-2, Regulation 56-2.

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- Machinery spaces shall be positioned aft of cargo and slop tanks, in accordance with 46 CFR 32.56 and SOLAS Chapter II-2, Regulation 56-1.
- Crew quarters must be aft of the forward portion of the vessel, in accordance with 46 CFR 32.40-10.
  
- Access Doors, Air Inlets, and Openings
  - Any form of opening into accommodation spaces, service spaces, control stations and machinery spaces shall not face the cargo area, as per SOLAS Chapter II-2, Regulation 56-8.1.
  
- Sleeping Accommodations
  - No sleeping space may berth more than 4 persons (46 CFR 32.40-20(b)).
  - Each licensed officer shall be provided with a separate stateroom, where practicable (46 CFR 32.40-20(a)).
  - Sizing, spacing and lockers must be provided (46 CFR 32.40-20(c)-(e)).
  
- Wash spaces; toilet spaces; and shower spaces
  - Each unit must have at least 1 toilet, 1 washbasin, and 1 shower or bathtub for every 8 persons who occupy sleeping spaces that do not have private or semi-private facilities attached. All facilities shall be constructed in accordance with 46 CFR 32.40-25.
  
- Messrooms
  - Messrooms shall be constructed in accordance with 46 CFR 32.40-30.
  
- Hospital Spaces
  - Each unit carrying twelve or more persons on a voyage of more than 3 days requires a hospital space or a designated treatment or isolation room, in accordance with 46 CFR 32.40-35.
  
- Other spaces
  - Laundry, recreation, and open deck spaces shall be provided in accordance with 46 CFR 32.40-40.
  
- Guardrails and Bulwarks
  - Guardrails or bulwarks shall be constructed in accordance with 46 CFR 32.01-10.
  - The height of rails and bulwarks shall be at least 39.5 inches.

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- Containment of deck spills
  - Deck coamings and enclosed areas shall be constructed in accordance with SOLAS Chapter II-2, Regulation 56-6 and/or 33 CFR 155.310, as applicable
- Slop tanks
  - Slop tanks required as per 33 CFR 157.15.
- Prohibited Spaces
  - Oil may not be carried in a forepeak tank or a tank forward of the collision bulkhead, per 33 CFR 155.470
- Emergency towing arrangements on tankers, SOLAS Chapter II-1, Part A-1, Regulation 3-4