



USCG MARINE SAFETY CENTER BULLETIN

MSC Plan Review Guidance available on the Internet

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One of the strategic goals of the Marine Safety Center (MSC) is to provide guidance and assistance to the marine industry for the preparation of drawings and information that the MSC reviews to verify compliance with the Coast Guard's safety and pollution prevention standards. This bulletin announces the availability of the first of these plan review guidance documents on the Internet. Overall, the MSC has identified 122 separate vessel design topics that are reviewed to determine compliance with the required standards. To date, the MSC has posted guidance documents for 26 topics as the first part of the effort to provide guidance for all topics. The currently posted documents include, but are not limited to: computerized trim and stability books, deck barge stability, inland tank barge structures and longitudinal strength, bilge and ballast systems, compressed air systems, emergency evacuation plans, and means of escape.

Please refer to the Internet site:

www.uscg.mil/hq/msc/PRGuidance.htm

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 Marine Safety Center welcomes the review and use of these guidance documents and specifically requests any comments or suggestions to improve and make them more useful.

/s/
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