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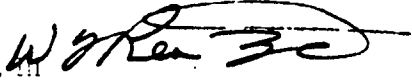
NVC 4-74
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NAVIGATION AND VESSEL INSPECTION CIRCULAR NO.4-74

Subj: Stability Information Required on Inspected and Uninspected United States Vessels Receiving a Load Line Certificate and Foreign Vessels Receiving Form B Load Line Certificates

1. Purpose. This circular establishes procedures between the American Bureau of Shipping or other recognized classification society and the U. S. Coast Guard to insure that the stability information required by the Load Line Regulations (46 CFR Subchapter E) is aboard all vessels receiving a Load Line Certificate.
2. Background. The master of every vessel receiving a 1966 International Load Line Certificate, Coastwise Load Line Certificate, or Form B Load Line Certificate must be provided with sufficient stability information to give him guidance as to the stability of the vessel under varying conditions of service. This information must be approved by the U. S. Coast Guard before any Load Line Certificate will be authorized.
3. Problem. In order that the assigning authority (the American Bureau of Shipping or other recognized classification society) can issue the Load Line Certificate as quickly as possible, a need exists to establish a method of (a) informing the assigning authority that the stability information has been approved by the U. S. Coast Guard, and (b) getting that information aboard the vessel.
4. Procedures.
 - a.
 - (1) The American Bureau of Shipping shall inform the owner of the vessel that a stability analysis will be required on his vessel and that the U. S. Coast Guard should be contacted as soon as possible.
 - (2) If the shipowner requests the appointment of another recognized classification society in accordance with 46 CFR 42.07-40, the Commandant will inform the shipowner that a stability analysis is required.
 - b. The extent of this analysis should be as outlined in Table I.
 - c. After review of the stability analysis, the Coast Guard will inform the assigning authority as indicated in Table I.

- the required stability information is aboard the vessel.
- e. At each annual survey; the assigning authority will assure itself that the required stability information is aboard the vessel before executing the annual validation.


W. F. BELL, III
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Chief, Office of Merchant Marine Safety

End: (I) TABLE I--PROCEDURES FOR APPROVING STABILITY INFORMATION IN THE
ISSUANCE OF LOAD LINE CERTIFICATES

TABLE I

PROCEDURES FOR APPROVING STABILITY INFORMATION IN THE ISSUANCE OF LOAD LINE CERTIFICATES

Category of Vessel	Coast Guard-Inspected Vessels		Uninspected Vessels	
	Manned	Unmanned	U. S. Flag	Foreign Flag (Form B)
Extent of analysis required	Inclining experiment, intact stability calculations, and information to the Master concerning the vessel's stability Note: An inclining experiment may be waived on barge type hulls		Same as inspected vessels	Stability information approved by another administration, OR Same as inspected vessel
Form in which information is to be passed to assigning authority	Copy of the stability letter issued by CG to Master (Load Line Certificate to be issued only if route and service are as stated)	Letter by CG stating what information required on board the vessel OR Copy of stability letter issued by CG	Letter by CG stating what information is required on board the vessel OR Copy of stability letter issued by CG	Copy of stability information approved by another administration and stamped "Examined" by CG OR Letter by CG stating what information is required on board the vessel
Responsibility for assuring that the required stability information is aboard the vessel	Placed aboard by the cognizant OCMI		Stability information will be included by endorsement on the Load Line Certificate by the assigning authority OR The assigning authority must assure itself that the stability information approved by the Coast Guard or another administration is aboard the vessel before issuing a Load Line Certificate	