



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security



CG-5431
Office of Vessel Activities
Domestic Compliance Division

MI Notice 03-10
September 28, 2010

Marine Inspection Notice

IMPLEMENTATION OF NAVIGATION AND VESSEL INSPECTION CIRCULAR 9-97, CHANGE 1

Guide to Structural Fire Protection

In July 2010, the Coast Guard published NVIC 9-97, Change 1; Guide to Structural Fire Protection. This change reflects recent trends in the shipbuilding industry. Significant progress has been made in the design and approval of structural fire protection materials such as fire resistant glazing, fire resistant furniture and FRP gratings since the publication of NVIC 9-97. In addition, the original guidance in NVIC 9-97 for passenger ships was intended primarily for large ocean-going ships, and did not fully address the 46 CFR Subchapter K requirements for small passenger vessels.

The recommended implementation date for this guidance was stated in paragraph 6 of the NVIC as October 1, 2010, with the intent of providing 6 months advanced notice to the industry. However, publication originally scheduled for April 1, 2010, was unintentionally delayed to July 2010 without adjusting the implementation date, shortening the time provided for industry to absorb and adjust to the revised guidance. To ensure vessel owners, designers, and builders have sufficient time for design and planning considerations, the guidance in the original NVIC 9-97 may continue to be applied as an alternative to the guidance in CH-1 through **April 1st 2011**; CH-1 may be applied to vessels contracted for on or after that date. The Coast Guard does not intend to publish an amendment to the NVIC beyond this notice.

This and all other NVIC's may be found at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/nvic/default.asp>

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to Office of Vessel Activities, Domestic Compliance Division (CG-5431) at CG-5431@uscg.mil or (202) 372-1224 or the Office of Design & Engineering Standards Lifesaving and Fire Safety Division (CG-5214) at (202) 372-1393.