



# Marine Safety Information Bulletin

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MSIB Number: 048-10  
Date: October 19, 2010  
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## International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code Final Rule Published

The Coast Guard announced today Federal Register publication of a final rule that amends its regulations for the carriage of bulk solid hazardous materials, to harmonize them with the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code. The effective date for the final rule will be January 1, 2011.

On January 1, 2011, compliance with the IMSBC Code will be mandatory for all vessels subject to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, as amended, that carry bulk solid cargoes other than grain. The final rule allows use of the IMSBC Code as an alternate form of compliance with Title 46 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 148, subject to conditions and limitations. This final rule expands the list of solid hazardous materials authorized for bulk transportation by any vessel in U.S. waters and includes special handling procedures based on the IMSBC Code and existing special permits. This final rule reduces the need for the current special permits for the carriage of certain solid hazardous materials in bulk.

The final rule and related materials may be reviewed at <http://www.regulations.gov> docket number: USCG-2009-0091.

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