

MSC Guidelines for OSV (<6,000 GT ITC) General Arrangements

Procedure Number: C1-05

Revision Date: August 3, 2017

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Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance and information regarding the submission of general arrangement plans for Offshore Supply Vessels (OSVs) of less than 6,000 GT ITC (or 500 GRT), regulated under 46 CFR Subchapters I, L and/or SOLAS.

References:

- a) 46 CFR Subchapter L
 - b) 46 CFR Subchapter I
 - c) International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, and its Protocol of 1988 (SOLAS), as amended
 - d) MSC.1/Circ.1239, "Unified Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter II-2," dated October 30, 2007
 - e) MSC.1/Circ.1350/Rev. 1, "Unified Interpretations of SOLAS Chapter V," dated December 4, 2012
 - f) MSC.1/Circ.1511, "Unified Interpretations of SOLAS Regulations II-2/9 and II-2/13," dated June 5, 2015
 - g) International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, and its Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL), as amended
 - h) CG-ENG Policy Letter 03-12, "Policy on the Implementation of IMO Resolution A.673(16), Guidelines for Transport and Handling of Limited Amounts of Hazardous and Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk on Offshore Support Vessels, for New and Existing U.S. Offshore Supply Vessels," dated May 15, 2012
 - i) CG-ENG Policy Letter 03-15, "Acceptance of CAP 437, Standards for Offshore Helicopter Landing Areas," dated September 3, 2015
 - j) D8(m) Policy Letter 09-2001, "Certification of Multi-Service Offshore Supply Vessels (OSVs)," dated July 5, 2001
 - k) CIM 16000.7B, CH-2, "Marine Safety Manual Volume II," dated July 20, 2016
 - l) MTN 01-95, CH-2, "Permissible Locations of Class 1 Watertight Doors (WTD)," dated January 11, 2016
 - m) MTN 02-00, CH-2, "Longitudinal Extent of Machinery Spaces on Offshore Supply Vessels," dated March 19, 2013
 - n) MTN 03-00, CH-1, "Means of Escape from Main Machinery Spaces on Offshore Supply Vessels (OSV)," dated February 6, 2014
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Contact Information:

If you have any questions or comments concerning this document, please contact the Marine Safety Center (MSC) by email or phone, and refer to Plan Review Guide Number C1-05.

Email: MSC@uscg.mil

Phone: 202-795-6731

Website: <http://homeport.uscg.mil/msc>

Responsibilities:

Using applicable portions of references (a) through (n), the submitter shall provide sufficient documentation and plans to indicate compliance with the requirements. The submission shall be made electronically to the above email address or, if paper, in triplicate to the MSC's address found on the above website. To facilitate plan review and project management, all plans and information specified in these guidelines should be submitted as one complete package through a single point of contact for the project.

General Review Procedure:

- If the vessel is new and not a sister vessel, has the Application for Inspection been submitted? In general, plan review may not occur until a copy of the Application is received.
 - Does the submission clearly state what is desired from MSC?
 - Are there any special/unusual requests or a time-critical element involved?
 - Are all plans requiring Coast Guard review and/or approval submitted in triplicate (if submittal is in hard copy)?
 - Does the submission include all necessary information to support compliance with the applicable requirements? At a minimum, general arrangement plans should include the following:
 - Inboard profile. Indicate the following:
 - Collision bulkhead;
 - All other watertight transverse bulkheads;
 - All watertight decks;
 - All openings in watertight decks and bulkheads and their means of closure (indicate the type of all watertight doors); and
 - Double-bottom arrangement.
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- Outboard profile. Indicate the following:
 - Load line;
 - Design water line;
 - Draft marks;
 - Bulkhead and freeboard decks;
 - If deck cargo is to be carried, include a profile with the deck cargo included; and
 - Navigation bridge visibility.

- Plan of each deck or space. Indicate the following:
 - Ladders and stairways;
 - Means of escape from each applicable space;
 - Accommodations with sufficient detail to show size and required sleeping, sanitation, and recreation spaces;
 - Location of all downflooding points in watertight decks;
 - Location of lifeboats, life rafts, and rescue boats;
 - Location of emergency sources of electrical power, fire pumps, and bilge pumps; and
 - Towing and mooring equipment arrangements, if applicable.

- Helideck details, if applicable

- Reference system (such as frame numbers) so that the locations of all spaces and bulkheads can be determined.

- All spaces should be clearly labeled. If the function of the space is unclear from its name, include a description of what machinery, cargo, etc. is inside.

Applicability:

- All OSVs must meet the requirements of 46 CFR Subchapter L.
 - Applicability: 46 CFR 125.100
 - “Offshore supply vessel” is defined in 46 CFR 125.160.
 - These Guidelines only apply to OSVs <6000 GT ITC (or <500 GRT).

- The vessel may be dual-certificated as an OSV and an Industrial or Cargo Vessel, if it also meets the requirements of 46 CFR Subchapter I.
 - Applicability: 46 CFR 90.05
 - For vessels in service within CG District 8, see reference (j) for more information.

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- ❑ If the vessel will also be certificated under Subchapters D and/or O, please refer to PRG C1-22, Tankship General Arrangements, or C1-25, Chemical Tankship General Arrangements, as appropriate.
- ❑ OSVs of more than 500GT ITC (or GRT if GT ITC is not assigned) on an international voyage must meet the requirements of SOLAS.
- ❑ Oceangoing OSVs must meet the applicable requirements of MARPOL.
- ❑ OSVs carrying flammable or combustible liquid cargoes in bulk:
 - OSVs regulated under Subchapter L must comply with 46 CFR 125.110. If a drilling fluid is categorized as an NLS, the carriage limitations in 125.120 supersede the “unlimited quantities” allowance in 125.110(b).
 - OSVs regulated under Subchapter I must comply with 46 CFR 90.05-35.
- ❑ OSVs carrying noxious liquid substance (“NLS”) cargoes in bulk:
 - New OSVs carrying NLS cargoes must comply with the requirements of reference (h). For the purposes of the policy in reference (h), new vessels are defined as those vessels whose keels were laid on or after February 20, 2010.
 - Existing OSVs that intend to carry an NLS cargo but have not previously been approved to do so will be treated as “new vessels,” insofar as is reasonable and practicable.
- ❑ OSVs carrying methanol in bulk:
 - Methanol is an NLS cargo. See above for guidance on NLS cargoes.
 - All OSVs carrying methanol are also subject to the guidance found in reference (k) paragraph F2.I.4. Please note that the cites identified in F2.I.4(a) & (b) are incorrect:
 - In F2.I.4(a), “Paragraph 11.H” should read “Paragraph A1.G”
 - In F2.I.4(b), “Paragraph 11.I” should read “Paragraph F2.G”
- ❑ OSVs equipped with a helideck must follow the guidance contained in reference (i). SOLAS vessels must also comply with II-2/18.
- ❑ OSVs with an “extended” machinery space should follow the guidance contained in reference (m).

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- OSVs carrying offshore workers:
 - In accordance with 46 CFR 126.170(a), OSVs <6,000 GT ITC (or <500 GRT) are not authorized to carry more than 36 offshore workers. Requests to carry more than 36 offshore workers will be addressed by the MSC on a case-by-case basis.
 - OSVs are not authorized to carry more than 12 offshore workers when on an international voyage unless the vessel holds a valid passenger-ship-safety certificate, as per 46 CFR 126.170(b).
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Subchapter L:

- The following regulations apply. If the vessel meets the requirements of SOLAS and MARPOL, these regulations are satisfied:
 - Oil tanks (as per 46 CFR 131.935):
 - MARPOL Annex I, Reg 12A (as per 33 CFR 155.250)
 - 33 CFR 155.470
 - Means of escape: 46 CFR 127.240 and reference (n)
 - Reference (n) is not applicable if the vessel is also subject to the requirements of Subchapter I and/or SOLAS.
 - Lifesaving systems: 46 CFR Part 133, as per 125.150(a)
 - The following regulations also apply:
 - Subdivision, as per 46 CFR 127.230:
 - Collision bulkhead: 46 CFR 174.190
 - Machinery space bulkheads: 46 CFR 174.195
 - Watertight doors: 46CFR 170 Subpart H, 174.210, and reference (l)
 - Location of accommodations and pilothouse: 46 CFR 127.270
 - Accommodations: 46 CFR 127.280
 - Rails and guards: 46 CFR 127 Subpart C
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Subchapter I:

- The following regulations apply:
 - Accommodations: 46 CFR 92.20
 - The following regulations also apply. If the vessel meets the requirements of SOLAS and MARPOL, these regulations are satisfied:
 - Navigation bridge visibility: 46 CFR 92.03-1
 - Lifesaving appliances and arrangements: 46 CFR Subchapter W, as per 90.27-1
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- Because the vessel meets the requirements of Subchapter L, the following regulations are satisfied:
 - Subdivision: 46 CFR 93.01
 - Means of escape: 46 CFR 92.10
 - Rails and guards: 46 CFR 92.25
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SOLAS:

- The following regulations apply:
 - Towing and mooring equipment: SOLAS II-1/3-8
 - Double bottom: SOLAS II-1/9
 - Collision and other bulkheads: SOLAS II-1/12
 - Openings in watertight bulkheads and decks: SOLAS II-1/13-1
 - Downflooding points: SOLAS II-1/15, 15-1, & 24.1
 - Watertight boundary penetrations: SOLAS II-1/16-1.1 & 16-1.2
 - Fuel oil service tanks: SOLAS II-1/26.11
 - Steering gear compartment: SOLAS II-1/29.13.1
 - Scuppers: SOLAS II-1/35-1.2.6
 - Emergency installations: SOLAS II-1/39
 - Emergency source of power: SOLAS II-1/43.1.2, 43.1.3, 43.5.1 thru 43.5.3, 44.3, 45.5.3, & 45.9.3
 - Fuel oil tanks: SOLAS II-2/4.2.2.3.1, 4.2.2.3.2, & 4.3
 - Openings in machinery space boundaries: SOLAS II-2/9.4.2.1, 9.5.2.1 & 9.5.2.6
 - Emergency fire pump: SOLAS II-2/10.2.1.4.1, 10.2.2.3.1.2, & 10.2.2.3.2
 - Fire-extinguishing medium storage: SOLAS II-2/10.4.3 and reference (d)
 - Means of escape: SOLAS II-2/13 and reference (f)
 - Helicopter facilities: SOLAS II-2/18
 - Lifesaving appliances and arrangements: SOLAS III/11.2, 12, 13, 14, & 31.2
 - Navigation bridge visibility: SOLAS V/22 & reference (e)
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MARPOL:

- The following regulations apply:
 - Sludge tanks: MARPOL Annex I, Reg 12
 - Double hull: MARPOL Annex I, Reg 12A
 - Oil tanks: MARPOL Annex I, Reg 16.3
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CG-ENG Policy Letter 03-12:

- The following requirements, listed in Enclosure (1) of CG-ENG Policy Letter 03-12, apply:
 - Applicability: 1.1.1
 - Definitions: 1.3
 - Cargo tank volume: 1.1.4
 - Cargo tank location: 2.2 & 3.1
 - Accommodation, service and machinery spaces, and control stations: 3.2
 - Access to spaces in the cargo area: 3.3
 - Cargo tank vents: 3.6
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CG-ENG Policy Letter 03-15:

- All OSVs with helicopter facilities must follow the guidance contained in this policy letter.
 - As per NVIC 09-81, “Coast Guard Guidance Regarding Shipboard Helicopter Facilities,” the regulations contained in 46 CFR Part 108 apply to OSVs.
 - Alternatively, in lieu of 46 CFR Part 108, vessels may comply with the requirements of CAP 437, “Offshore Helicopter Loading Areas – Guidance on Standards,” dated September 30, 2002.
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MSM Volume II:

- The following requirements apply, as per Section F2.I.4:
 - Segregation of cargo: 46 CFR 32.60-10 & -15
 - Cargo pumps: 46 CFR 32.60-20(a)
 - Independent tanks: 46 CFR 32.60-30
 - Emergency source of power: 46 CFR 32.60-45
 - Methanol tanks may not be located vertically below the vessel’s accommodations, service spaces, or navigating stations.
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Disclaimer:

This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule. It is not intended to nor does it impose legally-binding requirements on any party. It represents the Coast Guard’s current guidance on this topic and may assist industry, mariners, the general public, and the Coast Guard, as well as other federal and state regulators, in applying statutory and regulatory requirements. You can use an alternative approach for complying with these requirements if the approach satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. If you want to discuss an alternative, you may contact the MSC, the unit responsible for implementing this guidance.
