

**§ 26.30-1 Approved unicellular plastic foam work vests.**

(a) Buoyant work vests carried under the permissive authority of this subpart shall be of an approved type, and shall be constructed, listed, and labeled in accordance with subpart 160.053 of subchapter Q (Specifications) of this chapter.

**§ 26.30-5 Use.**

(a) Approved buoyant work vests are considered to be items of safety apparel and may be carried aboard vessels to be worn by crew members when working near or over the water under favorable working conditions.

(b) When carried, approved buoyant work vests shall not be accepted in lieu of any portion of the required number of approved lifesaving appliances required by § 25.25-10 of this subchapter.

**§ 26.30-10 Stowage.**

(a) The approved buoyant work vests shall be stowed separately from the regular stowage of required lifesaving equipment.

**PART 27—TOWING VESSELS****Subpart A—General Provisions for Fire-Protection Measures and Fire-Suppression Equipment on Towing Vessels**

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SOURCE: USCG-2000-6931, 69 FR 34069, June 18, 2004, unless otherwise noted.

**Subpart A—General Provisions for Fire-Protection Measures and Fire-Suppression Equipment on Towing Vessels****§ 27.100 What towing vessels does this part affect?**

(a) You must comply with this part if your towing vessel operates on the navigable waters of the United States, unless your vessel is one exempt under paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) This part does not apply to you if your towing vessel is—

(1) Used solely for any of the following services or any combination of these services—

(i) Within a limited geographic area, such as a fleeting-area for barges or a commercial facility, and used for restricted service, such as making up or breaking up larger tows;

(ii) For harbor-assist;

(iii) For assistance towing as defined by 46 CFR 10.103;

(iv) For response to emergency or pollution;

(2) A public vessel that is both owned, or demise chartered, and operated by the United States Government or by a government of a foreign country; and that is not engaged in commercial service;

(3) A foreign vessel engaged in innocent passage; or

(4) Exempted by the Captain of the Port (COTP).

(c) If you think your towing vessel should be exempt from these requirements for a specified route, you should submit a written request to the appropriate COTP. The COTP will provide you with a written response granting or denying your request. The COTP will consider the extent to which unsafe conditions would result if your vessel lost propulsion because of a fire in the engine room.

(d) You must test and maintain all of the equipment required by this part in accordance with the attached nameplate or manufacturer's approved design manual.

**§ 27.101 Definitions.**

As used in this part—

*Accommodation* includes any:

- (1) Messroom.
- (2) Lounge.
- (3) Sitting area.
- (4) Recreation room.
- (5) Quarters.
- (6) Toilet space.
- (7) Shower room.
- (8) Galley.
- (9) Berthing facility.
- (10) Clothing-changing room.

*Engine room* means the enclosed area where any main-propulsion engine is located. It comprises all deck levels within that area.

*Fixed fire-extinguishing system* means:

- (1) A carbon-dioxide system that satisfies 46 CFR subpart 76.15 and is approved by the Commandant;
- (2) A manually-operated clean-agent system that satisfies the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 2001 (incorporated by reference in § 27.102) and is approved by the Commandant; or
- (3) A manually-operated water-mist system that satisfies NFPA Standard 750 (incorporated by reference in § 27.102) and is approved by the Commandant.

*Fleeting-area* means a separate location where individual barges are moored or assembled to make a tow. The barges are not in transport, but are temporarily marshaled, waiting for pickup by different vessels that will transport them to various destinations.

A *fleeting-area* is a limited geographic area.

*Harbor-assist* means docking and undocking ships.

*Limited geographic area* means a local area of operation, usually within a single harbor or port. The local Captain of the Port (COTP) determines the definition of local geographic area for each zone.

*Operating station* means the principal steering station on the vessel, from which the vessel is normally navigated.

*Towing vessel* means a commercial vessel engaged in, or intending to engage in, pulling, pushing, or hauling alongside, or any combination of pulling, pushing, or hauling alongside.

*Towing vessel in inland service* means a towing vessel that is not in ocean or coastal service.

*Towing vessel in ocean or coastal service* means a towing vessel that operates beyond the baseline of the U.S. territorial sea.

*We* means the United States Coast Guard.

*Work space* means any area on the vessel where the crew could be present while on duty and performing their assigned tasks.

*You* means the owner of a towing vessel, unless otherwise specified.

**§ 27.102 Incorporation by reference.**

(a) Certain material is incorporated by reference into this part with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register—in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. To enforce any edition other than that specified in paragraph (b) of this section, the Coast Guard must publish notice of the change in the FEDERAL REGISTER and make the material available for inspection. All approved material is available at the U.S. Coast Guard, Office of Design and Engineering Standards (G-MSE), 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, or from the sources indicated in paragraph (b) of this section, or at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202-741-6030, or go to: [http://www.archives.gov/federal\\_register/code\\_of\\_federal\\_regulations/ibr\\_locations.html](http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html).