

*Examination Checklist* means any document or form approved in the VAP, that may be used by company employees to record the periodic examinations required by the VAP.

*Inspection Criteria References (ICR)* means the individual pages in the VAP that list each item on the vessel required by regulation to be periodically inspected.

*Inspection Schedule and Verification (ISV)* means the document that lists the items to be inspected and the intervals for their inspection, and on which is recorded the completion of required examinations and tests conducted by designated company employees.

*Prototype SIP plan* means the SIP plans developed for a company or vessel participating in a Coast Guard District or OCMI-endorsed SIP before August 18, 1998.

*Reportable casualty* means a marine casualty or accident required to be reported under 46 CFR part 4, subpart 4.05 of this chapter.

*Streamlined Inspection Program (SIP)* means the alternative inspection program set out in this subpart.

*Vessel Action Plan (VAP)* means the document that prescribes procedures for maintenance, examination, and inspection of a vessel enrolled in the SIP.

#### § 8.515 Eligibility.

- (a) The company must—
- (1) Have owned or operated at least one U.S. documented or registered vessel for a minimum of 3 consecutive years before the SIP application date; and
  - (2) Have paid all civil penalties and user fees.
- (b) Except as allowed by paragraph (c) of this section, each vessel must—
- (1) Have been in operation with an eligible owner or operator for at least 3 consecutive years before the SIP application date;
  - (2) Have had no revocation of its COI during the 3 years before the SIP application date; and
  - (3) Have no documented deficiency for any of the following in the 3 years before the SIP application date:
    - (i) Any vessel operation inconsistent with the operating details specified on its COI.

(ii) Operating without the required amount of lifesaving appliances on board the vessel or with inoperable survival craft.

(iii) Operating without the required firefighting equipment on board the vessel or with an inoperable fire pump(s).

(iv) Unauthorized modifications to the vessel's approved systems or structure, such as fixed firefighting systems, pollution prevention arrangements, overcurrent protection devices, or watertight boundary arrangements.

(v) Operating without the required navigation equipment on board the vessel or with inoperable navigation equipment.

(c) A vessel constructed for, or acquired by, a company with one or more vessels enrolled in the SIP need not meet the requirement in paragraph (b)(1) of this section for enrollment in the SIP, provided that the vessel holds a valid COI issued by the OCMI where the vessel will principally operate.

#### § 8.520 Application.

To apply for SIP enrollment, a company will submit an application, in writing, to the cognizant OCMI. The application must contain the following:

- (a) A statement that the company and prospective vessel(s) meet the requirements of § 8.515.
- (b) A summation of the company's current status in relation to § 8.530(a).
- (c) The name and official number of the vessel(s) the company intends to enroll in the SIP.
- (d) The name and contact information for the Company SIP Agent.

#### § 8.525 OCMI review and action.

(a) The cognizant OCMI will review Coast Guard records for the 3 years before the SIP application date to verify the eligibility of the company and each vessel listed in the SIP application.

(b) If the company and one or more of its vessels meets the eligibility requirements contained in § 8.515, the cognizant OCMI will notify the company of its eligibility and assign a Coast Guard SIP Advisor.

(c) If, according to Coast Guard records, a company or vessel does not meet the eligibility requirements contained in § 8.515, the cognizant OCMI

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will notify the company in writing of its ineligibility stating each reason for not accepting the company or a vessel.

**§ 8.530 Plan development and approval.**

The Company SIP Agent will develop the CAP and VAP with guidance from the Coast Guard SIP Advisor for OCMI approval.

(a) *Company Action Plan.* The CAP shall include at least the following:

(1) A copy of the OCMI CAP approval letter (once the CAP is approved).

(2) An organization commitment statement.

(3) A company organization chart that includes the name(s) of the designated SIP support personnel who will be responsible for implementation and oversight of the approved CAP and VAP(s).

(4) A statement describing the responsibilities and authorities of personnel involved in the examination and maintenance of the vessel(s) for the company.

(5) A description of the method the company will use to integrate the applicable subpart regulations into its SIP and the method or system used to initiate corrective action.

(6) A description of the company's safety program.

(7) A description of the company's environmental protection program.

(8) A description of the company's training infrastructure, the method used to track and record training for individual employees, and the training required for the designated SIP support personnel to implement the CAP and the VAP.

(9) A master list of all SIP documents and ICRs that the company intends to use in its VAP(s).

(10) Appendices for each approved VAP.

(b) *Vessel Action Plan.* Each VAP shall include at least the following:

(1) A copy of the OCMI VAP approval letter (once the VAP is approved).

(2) A description of the method that will be used to integrate the VAP into the vessel's regular operations.

(3) Vessel-specific ICRs.

(4) Vessel-specific ISV forms.

(5) Vessel-specific examination checklists.

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(6) Correction reports.

(c) *Plan Approval.* The Company SIP Agent will submit the CAP and each VAP to the cognizant OCMI for approval. Once approved, a copy of the VAP shall be kept on board the vessel.

**§ 8.535 Training and operational evaluation.**

When the CAP and VAP(s) have been approved by the cognizant OCMI, the company may begin training and operating under the plans. This evaluation phase includes the following:

(a) The company shall provide the designated SIP support personnel with training as required by the CAP.

(b) The vessel must operate and be examined under the VAP for a period of at least 3 months.

(c) During the operational periods, the Coast Guard SIP Advisor will conduct an ongoing evaluation of the vessel's operation, the training records, and the ability of all designated persons to perform their assigned functions under the VAP. The Coast Guard SIP Advisor will report periodically to the cognizant OCMI and the Company SIP Agent on the vessel's performance, and make recommendations, if needed.

(d) Revisions recommended under paragraph (c) of this section, or any additional operational periods under a revised CAP or VAP as may be required by the cognizant OCMI must be completed prior to enrollment.

**§ 8.540 Enrollment in SIP.**

Upon successful completion of the training and evaluation phase, the Coast Guard SIP Advisor will recommend to the OCMI that the company or vessel be enrolled in the SIP. If the OCMI concurs with the recommendation, he or she will issue an enrollment letter and endorse the vessel's COI. Subsequent inspections covered under this subpart will be conducted in accordance with the approved VAP.

**§ 8.545 Scope of inspection for enrolled vessels.**

(a) A Coast Guard marine inspector will conduct required periodic and follow-on inspections necessary to ensure compliance with Coast Guard regulations.