

Vessel Identification System or *VIS* means a system for collecting information on vessels and vessel ownership as required by 46 U.S.C. 12501.

§ 187.9 What is a vessel identifier and how is one assigned?

(a) The vessel identifier for a vessel having a valid HIN is the HIN.

(b) If a vessel does not have a valid HIN, a vessel identifier is assigned under the following table:

TABLE 187.9(b)—VESSEL IDENTIFIER ASSIGNMENTS

| If the vessel is: | And does not have a valid HIN: | Then the vessel identifier is: |
|------------------------|--|---|
| (1) Documented | | The official number assigned by the Coast Guard under 46 CFR part 67. |
| (2) Documented | And is transferred to a new owner | The HIN assigned by the Coast Guard. |
| (3) Undocumented | And must be numbered under 33 CFR parts 173 and 174. | The number issued on a certificate of number by the issuing authority of the State of principal operation, provided the number will not be used in the future to identify a different vessel. |
| (4) Undocumented | And is transferred to a new owner | The HIN assigned by the issuing authority of the State of principal operation. |
| (5) Undocumented | And the vessel is required to be numbered or titled in a new State of principal operation. | The HIN assigned by the issuing authority of the State of principal operation. |

§ 187.11 What are the procedures to participate in VIS?

(a) A State must submit a written request to the Commandant (G-OPB) certifying that it will comply with the VIS participation requirements in subpart C of this part.

(b) The Commandant will review the request and determine if the State is complying with the VIS participation requirements. If so, the Commandant will certify compliance by listing the State in Appendix A to this part.

(c) Appendix A to this part will list those States certified by the Commandant to participate in VIS. When the Commandant determines that a State is not complying with the participation requirements, it will lose its certification and will be deleted from Appendix A to this part.

§ 187.13 What are the procedures for obtaining certification of compliance with guidelines for State vessel titling systems?

(a) A State must submit a written request to the Commandant (G-OPB). The request must include a copy of the State's titling laws, regulations and administrative procedures, and certify that the State will comply with the VIS participation requirements in subpart C of this part.

(b) The Commandant will review the request and determine if the State is complying with the Guidelines for State Vessel Titling Systems in subpart D of this part. If the State is complying with the guidelines, the Commandant will certify compliance and list the State in Appendix B to this part.

(c) Appendix B to this part will list States certified by the Commandant. When the Commandant determines that a State is not complying with the vessel titling guidelines, it will lose its certification and be deleted from Appendix B to this part.

§ 187.15 When is a mortgage a preferred mortgage?

A mortgage, instrument, or agreement granting a security interest perfected under State law covering the whole of a vessel titled under the law of a participating State is a preferred mortgage if the State is certified under § 187.13.

Subpart B—Information to be Collected by Participating States

§ 187.101 What information must be collected to identify a vessel owner?

(a) A participating State must collect the following information for a vessel it has numbered or titled when

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an individual owns the vessel and make it available to VIS:

- (1) Names of all owners.
- (2) Principal residence of one owner.
- (3) Mailing Address, if different from the address in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.
- (4) One of the following unique identifiers for each owner:
 - (i) Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN).
 - (ii) If the SSN or ITIN is not available, birth date and driver's license number.
 - (iii) If the SSN, ITIN, and driver's license number are not available, birth date and other unique identifier prescribed by the State.
- (b) A participating State must collect the following information for a vessel that it has numbered or titled when the vessel's owner is not an individual, but a business or other type of organization:
 - (1) Names of all businesses or organizations that own the vessel.
 - (2) Principal address of one business or organization.
 - (3) Mailing address, if different from the address in paragraph (b)(2) of this section.
 - (4) Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) for the principal business or organization.
 - (5) If the TIN for the principal business or organization is not available, one of the following unique identifiers for a corporate officer, a partner, or the individual who signed the application for numbering:
 - (i) Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN).
 - (ii) If the SSN or ITIN is not available, birth date and driver's license number.
 - (iii) If the SSN, ITIN, and driver's license number are not available, birth date and other unique identifier prescribed by the State.

§ 187.103 What information must be collected to identify a vessel?

A participating State must collect the following information on a vessel it has numbered or titled and make it available to VIS:

- (a) Manufacturer's hull identification number (HIN), if any.
- (b) Official number, if any, assigned by the Coast Guard or its predecessor.
- (c) Number on certificate number assigned by the issuing authority of the State.
- (d) Expiration date of certificate of number.
- (e) Number previously issued by an issuing authority.
- (f) Name of manufacturer, builder, or make.
- (g) Model year, manufacture year, or year built.
- (h) Overall length.
- (i) Vessel type. Authorized terms are "open motorboat", "cabin motorboat", "auxiliary sail", "sail only", "personal watercraft", "pontoon", "houseboat", "rowboat", "canoe/kayak", or "other".
- (j) Hull material. Authorized terms are "wood", "aluminum", "steel", "fiberglass", "rigid hull inflatable", "rubber/vinyl/canvas", or "other".
- (k) Propulsion type. Authorized terms are "propeller", "sail", "water jet", "air thrust", or "manual".
- (l) Engine drive type. Authorized terms are "outboard", "inboard", or "inboard/stern drive".
- (m) Fuel. Authorized terms are "gasoline", "diesel", or "electric".
- (n) Primary use. Authorized terms are "pleasure", "rent or lease", "dealer or manufacturer demonstration", "charter fishing", "commercial fishing", "commercial passenger carrying", or "other commercial operation".

§ 187.105 What information on titled vessels must be collected and what may be collected?

- (a) A participating State must collect the following information on a vessel it has titled and make it available to VIS:
 - (1) Information required under § 187.103.
 - (2) Title number.
 - (3) Issuance date of the most recently issued title or redundant.
 - (4) Where evidence may be found on the security interest or lien against the vessel.
 - (5) Name of each secured party.
 - (6) Address (city and State) of each secured party.