

registry, or merchant mariner's document, unless the individual holds a valid license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document, as appropriate, authorizing service in the capacity in which the individual is engaged or employed and the individual serves within any restrictions placed on the license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document.

[CGD 81-059, 54 FR 149, Jan. 4, 1989]

§ 15.405 Familiarity with vessel characteristics.

Each licensed, registered, or certificated individual must become familiar with the relevant characteristics of the vessel on which engaged prior to assuming his or her duties. As appropriate, these include but are not limited to: general arrangement of the vessel; maneuvering characteristics; proper operation of the installed navigation equipment; firefighting and life-saving equipment; stability and loading characteristics; emergency duties; and main propulsion and auxiliary machinery, including steering gear systems and controls.

§ 15.410 Licensed individuals for assistance towing vessels.

Every assistance towing vessel must be under the direction and control of a licensed individual authorized to engage in assistance towing under the provisions of 46 CFR 10.482.

[CGD 87-017, 53 FR 18562, May 24, 1988]

Subpart D—Manning Requirements; Inspected Vessels

§ 15.501 Certificate of inspection.

(a) The certificate of inspection (COI) issued by an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI), to a vessel required to be inspected under 46 U.S.C. 3301 specifies the minimum complement of officers and crew necessary for the safe operation of the vessel.

(b) The manning requirements for a particular vessel are determined by the OCMI after consideration of the applicable laws, the regulations in this part, and all other factors involved, such as: Emergency situations, size and type of vessel, installed equipment, proposed routes of operation including frequency

of port calls, cargo carried, type of service in which employed, degree of automation, use of labor saving devices, and the organizational structure of the vessel.

[CGD 81-059, 52 FR 38652, Oct. 16, 1987, as amended at CGD 81-059, 54 FR 149, Jan. 4, 1989]

§ 15.505 Changes in the certificate of inspection.

All requests for changes in manning as indicated on the certificate of inspection must be made to the OCMI who last issued the certificate of inspection, unless the request is made in conjunction with an inspection for certification, in which case the request should be addressed to the OCMI conducting the inspection.

§ 15.510 Right of appeal.

Any person directly affected by a decision or action taken under this part, by or on behalf of the Coast Guard, may appeal therefrom in accordance with subpart 1.03 of this chapter.

[CGD 88-033, 54 FR 50380, Dec. 6, 1989]

§ 15.515 Compliance with certificate of inspection.

(a) Except as provided by § 15.725, no vessel may be operated unless it has in its service and on board, the complement required by the certificate of inspection.

(b) Any vessel subject to inspection under 46 U.S.C. 3301 must, while on a voyage, be under the direction and control of an individual who holds an appropriate license issued by the Coast Guard. For the purposes of this paragraph:

(1) A voyage is the period of time necessary to transit from the port of departure to the final port of arrival.

(2) A port does not include an Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) facility as defined in 33 CFR part 140.

[CGD 81-059, 52 FR 38652, Oct. 16, 1987, as amended at USCG-2004-18884, 69 FR 58343, Sept. 30, 2004]

§ 15.520 Mobile offshore drilling units.

(a) The requirements in this section for mobile offshore drilling units (MODUs) supplement other requirements in this part.

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(b) The OCMI determines the minimum number of licensed individuals and crew (including lifeboatmen) required for the safe operation of inspected MODUs. In addition to other factors listed in this part, the specialized nature of the MODU is considered in determining the specific manning levels.

(c) A license as offshore installation manager (OIM), barge supervisor (BS), or ballast control operator (BCO) authorizes service only on MODUs. A license or endorsement as OIM is restricted to the MODU type and mode of operation specified on the license.

(d) A self-propelled MODU other than a drillship must be under the command of an individual who holds a license as master endorsed as OIM.

(e) A drillship must be under the command of an individual who holds a license as master. When a drillship is on location, the individual in command must hold a license as master endorsed as OIM.

(f) A non-self-propelled MODU must be under the command of an individual who holds a license or endorsement as OIM.

(g) An individual serving as mate on a self-propelled surface unit other than a drillship must hold an appropriate license as mate and an endorsement as BS or BCO. An individual holding a license or endorsement as barge supervisor or ballast control operator may be substituted for a required mate when a self-propelled surface unit other than a drillship is on location or under tow, under certain circumstances as determined by the cognizant OCMI.

(h) An individual holding a license or endorsement as barge supervisor is required on a non-self-propelled surface unit other than a drillship.

(i) An individual holding a license or endorsement as barge supervisor may serve as ballast control operator.

(j) The OCMI issuing the MODU's certificate of inspection may authorize the substitution of chief or assistant engineer (MODU) for chief or assistant engineer, respectively, on self-propelled or propulsion assisted surface units, except drillships. The OCMI may also authorize the substitution of assistant engineer (MODU) for assistant engineer on drillships.

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(k) Requirements in this part concerning radar observers do not apply to non-self-propelled MODUs.

(l) A surface mobile offshore drilling unit underway or on location, when afloat and equipped with a ballast control room, must have that ballast control room manned by an individual holding a license or endorsement authorizing service as ballast control operator.

[CGD 81-059a, 55 FR 14805, Apr. 18, 1990]

§ 15.525 Reference to other parts.

Parts 31 and 35 of this chapter contain additional manning requirements applicable to tank vessels.

Subpart E—Manning Requirements; Uninspected Vessels

§ 15.601 General.

The following sections of subparts F, G, and H of this part contain provisions concerning manning of uninspected vessels; §§ 15.701, 15.705, 15.710, 15.720, 15.730, 15.801, 15.805, 15.810, 15.820, 15.825, 15.840, 15.850, 15.855, 15.905, 15.910, and 15.915.

§ 15.605 Licensed operators for uninspected passenger vessels.

Each uninspected passenger vessel must be under the direction and control of an individual licensed by the Coast Guard as follows:

(a) Every self-propelled, uninspected vessel as defined by 46 U.S.C. 2101(42)(B), carrying not more than six passengers, must be under the direction and control of an individual holding a license as operator.

(b) Every uninspected passenger vessel of 100 gross tons or more, as defined by 46 U.S.C. 2101(42)(A), must be under the direction and control of a licensed master, pilot, or mate as appropriate.

[USCG-1999-5040, 67 FR 34767, May 15, 2002]

§ 15.610 Master and mate (pilot) of towing vessels.

(a) Except as provided in this paragraph, every towing vessel of at least 8 meters (at least 26 feet) in length, measured from end to end over the deck (excluding sheer), must be under the direction and control of a person licensed as master or mate (pilot) of