any substantial amendment, and as otherwise required by the COTP.

(d) In determining whether the manual meets the requirements of this part and part 156 of this chapter the COTP shall consider the size, complexity, and capability of the facility.

(e) If the manual meets the requirements of this part and part 156 of this chapter, the COTP will return one copy of the manual marked “Examined by the Coast Guard” as described in §154.325.

(f) The facility operator shall ensure that a sufficient number of copies of the examined Operations Manual, including a sufficient number of the translations required by paragraph (a)(3) of this section, are readily available for each facility person in charge while conducting a transfer operation.

Note: The facility operator may request that the contents of the operations manual or portions thereof be considered commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential. Under the Freedom of Information Act, the Coast Guard would withhold any part of the contents of the operations manual from public disclosure upon determining that it is commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential.


(a) Each operations manual required by §154.300 must contain:

(1) The geographic location of the facility;

(2) A physical description of the facility including a plan and/or plans, maps, drawings, aerial photographs or diagrams, showing the boundaries of the facility subject to Coast Guard jurisdiction, mooring areas, transfer locations, control stations, wharfs, the extent and scope of the piping subject to the tests required by §156.170(c)(4) of this chapter, and the locations of safety equipment. For mobile facilities, a physical description of the facility;

(3) The hours of operation of the facility;

(4) The sizes, types, and number of vessels that the facility can transfer oil or hazardous material to or from simultaneously;

(5) For each product transferred at the facility:

(i) Generic or chemical name; and

(ii) The following cargo information:

(a) The name of the cargo as listed under appendix II of annex II of MARPOL 73/78, Table 30.25–1 of 46 CFR 30.25–1, Table 151.05 of 46 CFR 151.05–1, or Table 1 of 46 CFR part 153.

(b) A description of the appearance of the cargo;

(c) A description of the odor of the cargo;

(d) The hazards involved in handling the cargo;

(e) Instructions for safe handling of the cargo;

(f) The procedures to be followed if the cargo spills or leaks, or if a person is exposed to the cargo; and

(g) A list of fire fighting procedures and extinguishing agents effective with fires involving the cargo.

(6) The minimum number of persons on duty during transfer operations and their duties;

(7) The name and telephone number of the qualified individual identified under §154.1026 of this part and the title and/or position and telephone number of the Coast Guard, State, local, and other personnel who may be called by the employees of the facility in an emergency;

(8) The duties of watchmen, required by §§155.810 of this chapter and 46 CFR 35.05–15, for unmanned vessels moored at the facility;

(9) A description of each communication system required by this part;

(10) The location and facilities of each personnel shelter, if any;

(11) A description and instructions for the use of drip and discharge collection and vessel slop reception facilities, if any;

(12) A description and the location of each emergency shutdown system;

(13) Quantity, types, locations, and instructions for use of monitoring devices if required by §154.525;

(14) Quantity, type, location, instructions for use, and time limits for gaining access to the containment equipment required by §154.545;

(15) Quantity, type, location, and instructions for use of fire extinguishing equipment required by §154.735(d) of this part;

(16) The maximum allowable working pressure (MAWP) of each loading arm,
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transfer pipe system, and hose assembly required to be tested by § 156.170 of this chapter, including the maximum relief valve setting (or maximum system pressure when relief valves are not provided) for each transfer system;

(17) Procedures for:
(i) Operating each loading arm including the limitations of each loading arm;
(ii) Transferring oil or hazardous material;
(iii) Completion of pumping; and
(iv) Emergencies;

(18) Procedures for reporting and initial containment of oil or hazardous material discharges;

(19) A brief summary of applicable Federal, state, and local oil or hazardous material pollution laws and regulations;

(20) Procedures for shielding portable lighting authorized by the COTP under § 154.570(c); and

(21) A description of the training and qualification program for persons in charge.

(22) Statements explaining that each hazardous materials transfer hose is marked with either the name of each product which may be transferred through the hose or with letters, numbers, symbols, color codes or other system acceptable to the COTP representing all such products and the location in the Operations Manual where a chart or list of symbols utilized is located and a list of the compatible products which may be transferred through the hose can be found for consultation before each transfer; and

(23) For facilities that conduct tank cleaning or stripping operations, a description of their procedures.

(b) If a facility collects vapors emitted from vessel cargo tanks for recovery, destruction, or dispersion, the operations manual must contain a description of the vapor collection system at the facility which includes:

(1) A line diagram or simplified piping and instrumentation diagram (P&ID) of the facility’s vapor control system piping, including the location of each valve, control device, pressure-vacuum relief valve, pressure indicator, flame arrester, and detonation arrester; and

(2) A description of the vapor control system’s design and operation including the:
(i) Vapor line connection;
(ii) Startup and shutdown procedures;
(iii) Steady state operating procedures;
(iv) Provisions for dealing with pyrophoric sulfide (for facilities which handle inerted vapors of cargoes containing sulfur);
(v) Alarms and shutdown devices; and
(vi) Pre-transfer equipment inspection requirements.

(c) The facility operator shall incorporate a copy of each amendment to the operations manual under § 154.320 in each copy of the manual with the related existing requirement, or add the amendment at the end of each manual if not related to an existing requirement.

(d) The operations manual must be written in the order specified in paragraph (a) of this section, or contain a cross-referenced index page in that order.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1625–0093)


§154.320 Operations manual: Amendment.

(a) Using the following procedures, the COTP may require the facility operator to amend the operations manual if the COTP finds that the operations manual does not meet the requirements in this part:

(1) The COTP will notify the facility operator in writing of any inadequacies in the Operations Manual. The facility operator may submit written information, views, and arguments regarding the inadequacies identified, and proposals for amending the Manual, within 45 days from the date of the COTP notice. After considering all relevant material presented, the COTP shall notify the facility operator of any amendment required or adopted, or the COTP shall rescind the notice. The amendment becomes effective 60 days after