Coast Guard, DHS

(1) The ship is carrying the cargo under 33 CFR part 151;
(2) The ship is carrying the cargo in a portable tank under subpart 98.30 or 98.33 of this chapter; or
(3) The ship is an offshore supply vessel carrying the cargo under subpart 98.31 of this chapter; or
(b) All United States oceangoing non-self-propelled ships and those foreign non-self-propelled ships operating in United States waters that carry in bulk a Category A, B, or C NLS cargo listed in Table 1 or allowed in a written permission under §153.900(d), unless—
(1) The ship is carrying the cargo under 33 CFR part 151;
(2) The ship is carrying the cargo in a portable tank under subpart 98.30 or 98.33 of this chapter;
(3) The ship is an offshore supply vessel carrying the cargo under subpart 98.31 of this chapter; or
(4) The ship’s Certificate of Inspection is endorsed for a limited short protected coastwise route and the ship is constructed and certificated primarily for service on an inland route.
(c) All ships that carry a bulk liquid, liquefied gas, or compressed gas cargo that is not—
(1) Listed in Table 1 of this part;
(2) Listed in Table 2 of this part;
(3) Carried under a written permission granted under §153.900(d);
(4) Carried under part 30 through 35, 98, 151, or 154 of this chapter;
(5) Carried as an NLS under 33 CFR part 151.

§ 153.2 Definitions and acronyms.

As used in this part:
Accommodation spaces means halls, dining rooms, lounges, lavatories, cabins, staterooms, offices, hospitals, cinemas, game and hobby rooms, pantries containing no cooking appliances, and similar permanently enclosed spaces.
Adequate reception facility means each facility certified as adequate under 33 CFR part 151 and each facility provided by a Administration signatory to MARPOL 73/78 under Regulation 7 of Annex II.
Annex II means Annex II to MARPOL 73/78 and is the Annex to MARPOL 73/78 regulating the discharge of noxious liquid substances to the sea.
B means the breadth of the vessel and is defined in §42.13-15(d) of this chapter.
Built means that a ship’s construction has reached any of the following stages:
(1) The keel is laid.
(2) The mass of the partially assembled ship is 50,000 kg.
(3) The mass of the partially assembled ship is one percent of the estimated mass of the completed ship.
Cargo area means that part of a vessel that includes the cargo tanks, spaces adjacent to the cargo tanks and the part of the deck over the cargo tanks and adjacent spaces.
Cargo containment system means a cargo tank, its cargo piping system, its venting system, and its gauging system.
Cargo handling space means an enclosed space that must be entered during a routine loading, carriage, or discharge of cargo and that contains an element of the cargo containment system having a seal or packing to prevent the escape of cargo, such as a valve, cargo pump, or cargo vapor compressor.
Cargo piping system means a tankship’s permanently installed piping arrangement, including any valves and pumps, that carries cargo to or from a cargo tank.
Cargo tank means a tank that:
(1) Is part of or permanently affixed to a tankship; and
(2) Carries a cargo described in part 153, table 1—SUMMARY OF MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS in any quantity, including residual liquid or vapor.
Certificate of Compliance means a certificate issued by the Coast Guard that a foreign flag vessel had been examined and found to comply with the regulations in this chapter.
Closed gauging system means an arrangement for gauging the amount of cargo in a tank, such as a float and tape or a magnetically coupled float and indicator, that does not have any
opening through which cargo vapor or liquid can escape.  

Combustible is defined in §30.10–15 of this chapter.

Commandant means Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard.

The term is often followed by a mailing code in parentheses. The mailing address should include any mailing code and should be written as follows:

Commandant (mailing code), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 Second Street SW. Washington, D.C. 20593–0001.

Control space is defined in §30.10–19a of this chapter.

Cycle, means that the tank washing machine progresses through complete rotations until it reaches an orientation identical to its starting orientation.

NOTE: For a typical one or two nozzle tank washing machine that rotates in both the horizontal and vertical planes though more slowly in one than the other, a cycle would be at least one rotation in each plane of rotation.

Dedicated ballast tank means a tank that is used only for ballast.

Emergency shutdown station means a part of the tankship where the required emergency shutdown controls are clustered.

Flammable is defined in §30.10–22 of this chapter.

Forward perpendicular is defined in §42.13–15(b) of this chapter.

Hazardous material means a liquid material or substance that is—

(1) Flammable or combustible;

(2) Designated a hazardous substance under section 311(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321); or

(3) Designated a hazardous material under 49 U.S.C. 5103.

NOTE: The Environmental Protection Agency designates hazardous substances in 40 CFR Table 116.A. The Coast Guard designates hazardous materials that are transported as bulk liquids by water in §153.40.

High viscosity NLS includes high viscosity Category B NLS and high viscosity Category C NLS.

High viscosity Category B NLS means any Category B NLS having a viscosity of at least 25 mPa.s at 20 °C and at least 25 mPa.s at the time it is unloaded.

High viscosity Category C NLS means any Category C NLS having a viscosity of at least 60 mPa.s at 20 °C and at least 60 mPa.s at the time it is unloaded.

IMO means the International Maritime Organization (IMO, formerly Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization or IMCO).


IMO Certificate includes a Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk issued under the IMO Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk, Resolution MEPC 19(22), 1985.

Independent, as applied to a cargo piping, venting, heating or cooling system means that the system is connected to no other system, and has no means available for connection to another system.

Independent tank means a cargo tank that is permanently affixed to the vessel, that is self-supporting, that incorporates no part of the vessel’s hull and that is not essential to the integrity of the hull.

Intank cargo pump means a pump:

(1) Located within the cargo tank it serves; and

(2) Whose piping passes through only the top of the cargo tank.

Integral tank means a cargo tank that also is part of or is formed in part by the vessel’s hull structure so that the tank and the hull may be stressed by the same loads.


L means the length of the vessel and is defined in §42.13–15(a) of this chapter.
Liquid means each substance having a vapor pressure of 172 kPa or less at 37.8 °C.

Marine Inspector is defined in §30.10–43 of this chapter.


Master means the person-in-charge of a self-propelled or non-self-propelled ship.

Mixture means a mixture containing only the substances described in conjunction with the term.

Nearest land has the same meaning as in 33 CFR 151.05(h).

Noxious liquid substance (NLS) means—
(1) Each substance listed in 33 CFR 151.47 or 33 CFR 151.49;
(2) Each substance having an “A,” “B,” “C,” or “D” beside its name in the column headed “Pollution Category” in Table 1; and
(3) Each substance that is identified as an NLS in a written permission issued under §153.900(c).

NLS Certificate means an International Pollution Prevention Certificate for the Carriage of Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk issued under Annex II of MARPOL 73/78.

Oceangoing ship has the same meaning as in 33 CFR 151.05(j).

Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, is defined in §1.05(b) of this chapter.

Open gauging means an arrangement for gauging the amount of cargo in a tank through a large opening, such as a tank hatch or ullage opening.

Open venting system means a venting system that always allows vapor to flow freely to and from the tank.

Phosphoric acid means phosphoric acid, superphosphoric acid, and aqueous solutions of phosphoric acid.

Pressure-vacuum (PV) valve means a valve that is normally closed and which opens under a preset positive pressure or a vacuum.

Prewash means a tank washing operation that meets the procedure in §153.1120.

Pumproom means any enclosed space containing a pump that is part of a cargo containment system.

Reception facility means anything capable of receiving NLS residues in a country whose Administration is not signatory to MARPOL 73/78 and each adequate reception facility.

Refrigerated tank means a cargo tank that is equipped to carry a cargo that must be cooled in order to keep the cargo’s vapor pressure from exceeding the tank’s pressure-vacuum or safety relief valve setting under ambient conditions of 32 °C (approx. 90 °F) still water and 46 °C (approx. 115 °F) still air.

Relief valve setting means the inlet line pressure at which a vent system’s pressure-vacuum or safety relief valve fully opens.

Residues and mixtures containing NLSs (NLS residue) means—
(1) Any Category A, B, C, or D NLS cargo retained on the ship because it fails to meet consignee specifications;
(2) Any part of a Category A, B, C, or D NLS cargo remaining on the ship after NLS is discharged to the consignee, including but not limited to puddles on the tank bottom and in sumps, clingage in the tanks, and substance remaining in the pipes; or
(3) Any material contaminated with a Category A, B, C, or D NLS cargo, including but not limited to bilge slops, ballast, hose drip pan contents, and tank wash water.

Restricted gauging system means a method of gauging the amount of cargo in a tank through an opening of limited size that restricts or prevents the release of cargo vapors from the tank vapor space.

Safety relief (SR) valve means a normally closed valve that opens under a preset positive pressure.

Separate and separated, as applied to a cargo piping, venting, heating or cooling system, means either an independent system or one that may be disconnected from all other systems by:
(a) Removing spool pieces or valves and blanking the open pipe ends; or
(b) Blocking each system interconnection with two blind flanges in series and providing a means of detecting leakage into the pipe section between the flanges.
Service spaces means spaces outside the cargo area used for galleys, pantries containing cooking appliances, lockers, store rooms, workshops other than those forming part of machinery spaces, and trunks to such spaces.

Ship means a vessel of any type whatsoever, including hydrofoils, air-cushion vehicles, submersibles, floating craft whether self-propelled or not, and fixed or floating platforms.

Slop tanks include slop tanks and cargo tanks used as slop tanks.

Solidifying NLS means a Category A, B, or C NLS that has a melting point—
1. Greater than 0 °C but less than 15 °C and a temperature, measured under the procedure in § 153.908(d), that is less than 5 °C above its melting point at the time it is unloaded; or
2. 15 °C or greater and has a temperature, measured under the procedure in § 153.908(d), that is less than 10 °C above its melting point at the time it is unloaded.

Solution means a water solution.

Special area means the Baltic Sea Area as defined in 33 CFR 151.13(a)(2) and the Black Sea Area as defined in 33 CFR 151.13(a)(3).

SR venting system means a venting system in which an SR valve controls vapor flow from the cargo tank.

Tankship has the same meaning as “ship”.

Venting system means a permanent piping arrangement leading from a cargo tank and used to control the flow of vapor to and from the tank.

§ 153.3 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.

§ 153.4 Incorporation by reference.

(a) Certain material is incorporated by reference of the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a). To enforce any edition other than that specified in paragraph (b) of this section, the Coast Guard must publish notice of change in the Federal Register and make the material available to the public. All approved material is on file at the U.S. Coast Guard, Office of Operating and Environmental Standards (CG–522), 2100 2nd St., SW., Stop 7126, Washington, DC 20593–7126, 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. All material is available from the sources indicated in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) The material approved for incorporation by reference in this part and the sections affected are:

1. American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
   11 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036
   ANSI B16.5, Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings, 1986 .................................. 153.940
   ANSI B16.24, Bronze Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings, 1979..................... 153.940
   ANSI B16.31, Non-Ferrous Flanges, 1971.................................................. 153.940

   100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428–2959.


(a) Definitions. (1) Permit means a Certificate of Inspection, Letter of Compliance, or Certificate of Compliance.

(2) Existing tankship means a tankship for which a contract was let on or before December 27, 1977.