§ 153.500 Inert gas systems.

When Table 1 refers to this section, a cargo containment system must have a permanent inert gas system that:

(a) Maintains the vapor space of the containment system in an inert state by filling the vapor space with a gas that is neither reactive with the cargo nor flammable;

(b) Has a pressure control system that:

(1) Prevents the inert gas system from raising the cargo tank pressure to more than the relief valve setting; and

(2) Maintains at least a 3.5 kPa gauge (approx. 0.5 psig) pressure within the containment system at all times, including cargo discharge;

(c) Has storage for enough inerting gas to replace that normally lost while the tank’s atmosphere is maintained in an inert condition (e.g. through tank breathing and relief valve leakage), but in no case an amount less than 5 percent of the tank’s capacity when measured with the gas at −18 °C (approx. 0 °F) and a pressure equal to the cargo tank’s relief valve setting; and

(d) Has connections for any supplemental gas supply necessary to maintain the inert gas pressure described in paragraph (b) of this section during cargo discharge.

§ 153.501 Requirement for dry inert gas.

When Table 1 refers to this section, an inert gas system for the containment system must supply inert gas containing no more than 100 ppm water.

§ 153.515 Special requirements for extremely flammable cargoes.

When Table 1 refers to this section:

(a) An enclosed space containing a cargo tank must have an inverting system that meets the requirements in § 153.500 applying to the inert gas system of a containment system;

(b) Cargo discharge pumps must be of a type that does not subject the shaft gland to the cargo under pressure or that is submerged; and

(c) The cargo tank’s relief valve setting must be no less than 21 kPa gauge (approx. 3 psig).

§ 153.520 Special requirements for carbon disulfide.

A containment system carrying carbon disulfide must meet the following:

(a) Each cargo pump must be of the intank type and encased within a cylindrical well that extends from the top of the tank to a point no more than 10 cm (approx. 4 in.) above the bottom of the tank.

(b) [Reserved]

(c) The cargo piping and venting systems must be completely independent of those for other cargo.

(d) Pressure relief valves must be made of type 304 or 316 stainless steel.


§ 153.525 Special requirements for unusually toxic cargoes.

When Table 1 refers to this section a containment system must meet the following:

(a) Cargo piping and venting systems must be designed so that they can be separated from any containment system endorsed for a cargo not covered by this section.

(b) A cargo tank’s relief valve setting must be not less than 21 kPa gauge (approx. 3 psig).

(c) All cargo pumps and valves located below the weatherdeck must be operable from the weatherdeck.

(d) A heat transfer system for the cargo must:

(1) Be independent of other ship service systems, except for other cargo heat transfer systems, and not enter the engine room;

(2) Be totally external to the cargo containment system; or

(3) Be approved by the Commandant (CG–522) for use with toxic cargoes.

(e) The cargo must be separated from any bunkers by at least two bulkheads.

(f) A cargo containment system must have a vapor return connection.


§ 153.526 Toxic vapor detectors.

(a) When Table 1 refers to this section, a tankship must have two toxic vapor detectors, at least one of which