§ 452.5 Examinations made in conjunction with other inspections.

(a) Periodic examinations may be made in conjunction with or as part of routine change-of-custody inspections, or in any other manner convenient to the owner so long as the examinations conform to the requirements of §452.3.

§ 452.7 Continuous examination program.

(a) In lieu of a periodic examination under §452.1, each owner of an approved container meeting §450.5 may examine the container or have it examined using an approved continuous examination program. An owner must submit the continuous examination program for approval to the Commandant (CG–522), United States Coast Guard, 2100 2nd St. SW., Stop 7126, Washington, DC 20593–7126. When submitting a continuous examination program for approval the owner must show the continuous examination complies with §452.9.

(b) The owner must mark the container with the letters "ACEP/USA/(year continuous examination program is approved)" to indicate the container is being periodically examined under an approved continuous examination program. This marking must be as close as practicable to the safety approval plate. This marking must be on all containers covered by a continuous examination program by January 1, 1987.

(c) The owner of containers subject to this section shall have those containers examined in accordance with the program prescribed in this section regardless of whether the examinations are performed within or outside the United States.

§ 452.9 Elements of a continuous examination program.

(a) Examinations required by §452.7 must conform to the following minimum requirements:

(1) A thorough examination that must include a detailed visual inspection for defects such as cracks, failures, corrosion, missing or deteriorated fasteners, and any other safety related deficiency or damage that could place any person in danger. Any such deficiencies disclosed by the examination must be corrected by the owner before the container is continued in service. A thorough examination must be done each time a container undergoes a major repair, refurbishment or on-hire/off-hire interchange. In no case is the time period between thorough examinations to exceed 30 months.

(2) Each thorough examination must be performed by qualified personnel, trained and experienced in the detection of container structural damage.

(3) Each thorough examination must apply owner established or industry accepted pass/fail criteria to determine whether a container has any deficiency that must be remedied before the container is returned to service.

(b) Thorough examinations must be documented, and the records retained by the owner, until the next examination is completed and recorded. The records must include, in addition to identification of the container, a record of the date of last examination and a means of identifying the examiner. The records must be maintained in an office under the control of the owner and be made available for inspection by the Coast Guard upon demand. If the original records are maintained outside the United States, its territories or possessions, supplementary records must be available in written or data processing form to be produced on demand of the Commandant or his representative.