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(3) Where a system is installed to protect a tank, it shall be so designed and arranged as to spread a blanket of foam over the entire liquid surface of the tank within the range of usual trim. The arrangement of piping shall be such as to give a relatively uniform distribution over the entire area protected.

(4) For tanks, the rate of discharge to foam outlets protecting the hazard shall be as set forth in §34.17–5(b), except that the value of 1 gallon per minute shall be substituted in both cases for the value of 1.6 gallons per minute. The quantity of foam provided shall be sufficient to operate the equipment for 5 minutes.

(5) On installations installed prior to November 19, 1952, a semiportable foam generator using a dry-chemical mixture or mechanical foam in conjunction with the fire lines may be substituted for the fixed system subject to the following conditions:

(i) There shall be at least one fire pump of suitable capacity available which can be operated and controlled from outside the space protected.

(ii) Stop valves shall be installed in the line so that if any portion of the fire main is ruptured, the foam generator may still be operated. Connections for at least two fire hoses shall be provided between the pump and the stop valve.

(iii) If the foam system is of the portable or semiportable type, the apparatus and chemicals shall be stored in a readily accessible place protected from the weather.

Subpart 34.20—Deck Foam System, Details

§ 34.20–1 Application—T/ALL

(a) Where a deck foam system is installed, the provisions of this subpart, except §34.20–90, apply to all installations that are contracted for on or after January 1, 1970, unless otherwise indicated.

(b) Installations contracted for prior to January 1, 1970, shall meet the requirements of §34.20–90.

(c) Foreign flag crude oil tankers and product carriers required to have fixed deck foam systems by this subpart must have systems that are designed and installed in accordance with Regulation 61 of Chapter II–1 of SOLAS 1974. (Senate Document, 57–1180, GPO, Washington, 1976; "Message from the President of the United States transmitting, the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974. Done at LONDON, November 1, 1974").

(46 U.S.C. 391a; 49 CFR 1.46(n)(4))

§ 34.20–3 Cargo area definition—T/ALL

(a) For the purpose of this subpart, the term cargo area is defined as the maximum beam of the vessel times the total longitudinal extent of the cargo tank spaces.

§ 34.20–5 Quantity of foam required—T/ALL

(a) Area protected. Systems of this type are designed to give primary protection to the spaces over the cargo tanks.

(b) Rate of application. The water rate of the foam production equipment shall be determined as follows:

(1) For usual petroleum products the rate of supply of foam solution shall be not less than the greatest of the following:

(i) 0.6 liters/min per square meter of cargo tanks deck area, where cargo tanks deck area means the maximum breadth of the ship multiplied by the total longitudinal extent of the cargo tank spaces;

(ii) 6 liters/min per square meter of the horizontal sectional area of the single tank having the largest such area; or

(iii) 3 liters/min per square meter of the area protected by the largest monitor, such area being entirely forward of the monitor, but not less than 1,250 liters/min.

(2) For polar solvent products (e.g. alcohols, ketones, etc.) the water rate shall be determined for each vessel. The rate will depend upon the vessel design, products to be carried and foam system to be used.

(c) Supply of foam-producing material. Each deck foam system must have a...
supply of foam-producing material sufficient to operate the system at its designed rate of foam production for the following periods:

(1) For installations contracted for on or after January 1, 1970, 15 minutes without recharging, except as required in paragraph (c)(2) of this section.

(2) For installations on ships that have a keel laying date on or after January 1, 1975, 20 minutes without recharging.

(d) Separate supply of foam-producing material. Where the same foam-producing material may be used for this system as well as a fixed foam system, separate supplies need not be provided for each space protected. The total available supply shall be at least sufficient for the space requiring the greatest amount.

(e) Water supply. Suitable pumps shall be provided capable of producing the required water rate. The fire pumps required by subpart 34.10 may be used for this purpose; however, the operation of the deck foam system shall not interfere with the simultaneous use of the fire main system.


§ 34.20-15 Piping—T/ALL.

(a) All piping, valves, and fittings shall meet the applicable requirements of subchapter F (Marine Engineering) of this chapter.

(b) All piping, valves, and fittings of ferrous materials shall be protected inside and outside against corrosion unless specifically approved otherwise by the Commandant.

(c) The piping and outlet arrangement shall allow the required rate of applications as contained in §34.20-5(b), to any portion of the open deck of the cargo area through the use of the mounted and hand-held appliances that are provided. At least 50 percent of the required rate of application shall be from the mounted appliances. One or more hose outlets for hand-held appliances shall be provided at each foam station. For enclosed spaces, application of at least 1.6 gallons per minute water rate for each 10 square feet of the enclosed area for 5 minutes is acceptable. For the purpose of this paragraph, all piping is assumed to be damaged in way of the fire and an adequate number of valves shall be fitted to prevent loss of foam by closing valves to damaged piping.

(d) All piping, valves, and fittings shall be securely supported, and where necessary, protected against injury.

(e) Drains and dirt traps shall be fitted where necessary to prevent the accumulation of dirt or moisture.

(f) Piping shall not be used for any other purpose than firefighting, drills, and testing.

(g) Tankships of 100,000 or more DWT (metric) and combination carriers of 50,000 or more DWT (metric) that have a keel laying date on or after January 1, 1975, must have at least one foam station port and at least one foam station starboard that are separated from each other by a distance equal to at least one-half the beam of the vessel:

(1) At the housefront or aft of the cargo area in a location that is accessible to the crew for fighting a cargo and a pumproom fire; and