Coast Guard, DHS

§ 153.408 Tank overflow control.

(a) When Table 1 references this section, a cargo containment system must have a cargo high level alarm meeting §153.409 and one of the following additional systems:

(1) A second high level (cargo overflow) alarm.

(2) A system that automatically stops cargo flow to the tank (automatic shutdown system).

(b) The high level alarm and the cargo overflow alarm or automatic shutdown system must:

(1) Be independent of one-another; and

(2) Operate on loss of power.

(c) The cargo overflow alarm or the automatic shutdown system must operate early enough to:

(1) Stop the loading operation before the cargo tank overflows; and

(2) Avoid surge pressures that exceed the working pressure specified in §153.294(b).

§ 153.407 Special requirements for sounding tube gauges.

(a) A sounding tube installed as a restricted gauge must extend to within one meter (approx. 39.4 in.) of the bottom of the tank.

(b) A sounding tube must not be installed on a tank whose relief valve setting exceeds 28 kPa (approx. 4 psig) unless it is specifically permitted by the Commandant (CG–522).

(c) A sounding tube must have no perforations in the tube wall.


§ 153.406 Standards for containment systems having required restricted gauges.

When Table 1 requires a cargo’s containment system to have a restricted gauge, the containment system must have:

(a) A closed gauging system; or

(b) A system that has:

(1) A restricted gauge (e.g., a sounding tube) with an orifice diameter not exceeding 20 cm (approx. 7.8 in.);

(2) A permanently attached gauge cover that is vapor tight when in place; and

(3) A venting system that has either:

(i) Lock open PV valves; or

(ii) Valved bypasses around the PV valves.

§ 153.404 Standards for containment systems having required closed gauges.

When Table 1 requires a cargo’s containment system to have a closed gauge, the containment system must have the following:

(a) A permanently installed closed gauging system.

(b) A vapor return connection.

§ 153.400 General requirements for gauges.

(a) Columnar gauge glasses must not be installed on a cargo containment system.

(b) Flat sight glasses must meet §38.10–20(h) of this chapter.

§ 153.372 Gauges and vapor return for cargo vapor pressures exceeding 100 kPa (approx. 14.7 psia).

When Table 1 references this section, the containment system must have:

(a) Tank pressure gauge at the point where cargo flow is controlled during transfer; and

(b) Vapor return connection.

§ 153.370 Gauges and vapor return for cargo vapor pressures exceeding 100 kPa (approx. 14.7 psia).

When Table 1 references this section, the containment system must have:

(a) Tank pressure gauge at the point where cargo flow is controlled during transfer; and

(b) Vapor return connection.


§ 153.407 Special requirements for sounding tube gauges.

(a) A sounding tube installed as a restricted gauge must extend to within one meter (approx. 39.4 in.) of the bottom of the tank.

(b) A sounding tube must not be installed on a tank whose relief valve setting exceeds 28 kPa (approx. 4 psig) unless it is specifically permitted by the Commandant (CG–522).

(c) A sounding tube must have no perforations in the tube wall.

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(d) A tank overflow must be identified with the legend “TANK OVERFLOW ALARM” in lettering as specified for the warning sign in §153.955.

(e) A tank overflow alarm must be audible and visible in that part of the deck where the containment systems are located and at the point where cargo loading is controlled on the tankship.

(f) The automatic shutdown system or tank overflow alarm must be able to be checked at the tank for proper operation (for example, by electrically simulating an overfill at the tank gauge connection).

(g) In this section, “independent” as applied to two systems means that one system will operate with a failure of any part of the other system except high level power sources and electrical feeder panels. Conduit need not be independent; the control wiring for several independent systems may be carried in a single conduit.

[CGD 81–078, 50 FR 21173, May 22, 1985]

§ 153.409 High level alarms.

When Table 1 refers to this section or requires a cargo to have a closed gauging system, the cargo’s containment system must have a high level alarm:

(a) That gives an audible and visual alarm before the tank fills to 97 percent of its capacity;

(b) That can be seen and heard where cargo transfer is controlled and on the open deck;

(c) Whose operation can be checked prior to each loading; and

(d) That must be marked as described in §153.408(c)(6) with the legend “HIGH LEVEL ALARM.”


§ 153.430 Heat transfer systems; general.

Each cargo cooling system required by this part and each cargo heating system must:

(a) Meet the standards of Subchapters F (Marine Engineering) and J (Electrical Engineering) of this chapter;

(b) Have valving that enables the system to be separated from all other cooling and heating systems; and

(c) Allow manual regulation of the system’s heat transfer rate.


§ 153.432 Cooling systems.

(a) Each cargo cooling system must have an equivalent standby unit that is installed and that can be placed in operation immediately after failure of the primary cooling system.

(b) Each tankship that has a cargo tank with a required cooling system must have a manual that contains:

1. A piping diagram for the cooling system; and

2. Instructions for changing over to the standby system described in paragraph (a) of this section.


§ 153.434 Heat transfer coils within a tank.

When a cargo tank contains any quantity of cargo, a cargo cooling or heating system having coils within the tank must keep the heat transfer fluid at a pressure greater than the pressure exerted on the heating or cooling system by the cargo.

[CGD 78–128, 47 FR 21209, May 17, 1982]

§ 153.436 Heat transfer fluids: compatibility with cargo.

A heat transfer fluid separated from the cargo by only one wall (for example, the heat transfer fluid in a coil within a tank) must be compatible with the cargo under the standards prescribed for compatibility between two cargoes in Part 150 of this chapter.

[CGD 81–078, 50 FR 21174, May 22, 1985]

§ 153.438 Cargo pressure or temperature alarms required.

(a) Each refrigerated tank must have:

1. An alarm that operates when the cargo’s pressure exceeds the vapor pressure described in §153.371(b); or

2. An alarm that operates when the cargo’s temperature exceeds the steady...