§ 170.120 Stability letter.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, each vessel must have a stability letter issued by the Coast Guard before the vessel is placed into service. This letter sets forth conditions of operation.

(b) A stability letter is not required if the information can be placed on the Certificate of Inspection or the Load Line Certificate.


§ 170.125 Operating information for a vessel engaged in lifting.

In addition to the information required in §170.110, the following information must be included in the stability booklet of a vessel that is required to comply with §173.005 of this subchapter:

(a) Non-counterballasted vessel. If a vessel is not counterballasted, stability information setting forth hook load limits corresponding to boom radii based on the intact stability criterion in §173.020 must be provided.

(b) Counterballasted vessel. If a vessel is counterballasted with water, the following information must be provided:

1. Instructions on the effect of the free surface of the counterballast water.
2. Instructions on the amounts of counterballast needed to compensate for hook load heeling moments.
3. If a vessel has fixed counterballast, a table of draft versus maximum vertical moment of deck cargo and hook load combined.
4. If a vessel has variable counterballast, a table of draft versus maximum vertical moment of deck cargo and hook load combined for each counterballasted condition.

§ 170.135 [Reserved]

§ 170.140 Operating information for a vessel constructed on or after January 1, 2009 and issued a SOLAS safety certificate.

(a) This section applies to each vessel that is—

1. Constructed on or after January 1, 2009; and


(b) In addition to the information required in §170.110 of this part, the stability booklet of each vessel to which this section applies must contain the information required by applicable regulations of IMO Res. MSC.216(82) (incorporated by reference, see §170.015).

(c) As used in SOLAS chapter II–1, Administration means the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard.


Subpart E—Intact Stability Criteria

§ 170.160 Specific applicability.

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section, this subpart applies to each vessel.

(b) This subpart does not apply to any of the following vessels unless the stability of the vessel is questioned by the OCMI:

1. A deck cargo barge that complies with the requirements in §174.020 of this chapter.

2. A tank vessel that only carries a product listed in §30.25–1 of this chapter and that is—

   (i) Less than 150 gross tons; or
   (ii) A tank barge that operates only in river or lakes, bays, and sounds service.

3. A sailing school vessel that is an open boat that complies with the requirements in §173.063(e) of this subchapter.

(c) This subpart does not apply to the following vessels:

1. A tank barge that carries a product listed in Table 151.05 of this chapter.

2. A mobile offshore drilling unit.

3. A vessel that performs one of the simplified stability proof tests described in subpart C of part 178 of this chapter.

(d) A vessel that complies with §170.165 of this part need not comply with §§170.170 and 170.173 of this part.


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