Subpart 62.25—General Requirements for All Automated Vital Systems

§62.25–1 General.

(a) Vital systems that are automatically or remotely controlled must be provided with—

(1) An effective primary control system;
(2) A manual alternate control system;
(3) A safety control system, if required by §62.25–15;
(4) Instrumentation to monitor system parameters necessary for the safe and effective operation of the system; and
(5) An alarm system if instrumentation is not continuously monitored or is inappropriate for detection of a failure or unsafe condition.

(b) Automation systems or subsystems that control or monitor more than one safety control, interlock, or operating sequence must perform all assigned tasks continuously, i.e., the detection of unsafe conditions must not prevent control or monitoring of other conditions.

(c) Each console for a vital control or alarm system and any similar enclosure that relies upon forced cooling for proper operation of the system must have a backup means of providing cooling. It must also have an alarm activated by the failure of the temperature-control system.


§62.25–5 All control systems.

(a) Local and remote starting for any propulsion engine or turbine equipped with a jacking or turning gear must be prevented while the turning gear is engaged.

(b) Automatic control systems must be stable over the entire range of normal operation.

(c) Inadvertent grounding of an electrical or electronic safety control system must not cause safety control operation or safety control bypassing.


§62.25–10 Manual alternate control systems.

(a) Manual alternate control systems must—

(1) Be operable in an emergency and after a remote or automatic primary control system failure;
(2) Be suitable for manual control for prolonged periods;
(3) Be readily accessible and operable; and
(4) Include means to override automatic controls and interlocks, as applicable.

(b) Permanent communications must be provided between primary remote control locations and manual alternate control locations if operator attendance is necessary to maintain safe alternate control.

Note: Typically, this includes main boiler fronts and local propulsion control.

§62.25–15 Safety control systems.

(a) Minimum safety trip controls required for specific types of automated vital systems are listed in Table 62.35–50.

Note: Safety control systems include automatic and manual safety trip controls and automatic safety limit controls.

(b) Safety trip controls must not operate as a result of failure of the normal electrical power source unless it is determined to be the failsafe state.

(c) Automatic operation of a safety control must be alarmed in the machinery spaces and at the cognizant remote control location.

(d) Local manual safety trip controls must be provided for all main boilers, turbines, and internal combustion engines.

(e) Automatic safety trip control systems must—

(1) Be provided where there is an immediate danger that a failure will result in serious damage, complete breakdown, fire, or explosion;
(2) Require manual reset prior to renewed operation of the equipment; and
(3) Not be provided if safety limit controls provide a safe alternative and trip would result in loss of propulsion.