Maritime Administration, DOT

Subpart F—War Risk Cargo Insurance

§ 308.500 Authority.

The Secretary of Transportation has delegated authority to the Maritime Administrator to perform the functions vested in the Secretary by Title XII of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, which authority includes the insurance set forth in this Subpart, as provided under section 1203(b) of the Act (46 App. U.S.C. 1283(b)). For the purposes of this Subpart F—War Risk Cargo Insurance, the terms “cargo” and “cargoes” as used herein shall include loaded or empty containers located aboard U.S.-flag and foreign-flag vessels insured under Title XII, Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended. Cargo war risk insurance will be written under either an open policy or a facultative policy in accordance with the provisions of this subpart.

§ 308.501 Cargoes on which coverage is available.

The Maritime Administrator will be prepared to provide marine insurance against loss or damage by the risks of war under approved clauses on shipments of cargoes coming within one or more of the following categories:

(a) Shipped or to be shipped on any American vessel, as defined in section 1201(a) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 App. U.S.C. 1281(a));

(b) Shipped or to be shipped on any foreign flag vessels owned by citizens of the United States;

(c) Owned by citizens or residents of the United States, its Territories or possessions;

(d) Imported to, or exported from, the United States, its Territories or possessions, under contracts of sale or purchase by the terms of which the risk of loss by war risks or the obligation to provide insurance against such risks is assumed by or falls upon a citizen or resident of the United States, its Territories or possessions;

(e) Sold or purchased by citizens or residents of the United States, its Territories or possessions, under contracts of sale or purchase by the terms of which the risk of loss by war risks or the obligation to provide insurance against such risks is assumed by or falls upon a citizen or resident of the United States, its Territories or possessions;

(f) Shipped between ports in the United States, or between ports in the United States and its Territories and possessions, or between ports in such Territories or possessions; and

(g) Shipped or to be shipped on any foreign flag vessels, whether or not owned by citizens of the United States, if such vessels are engaged in transportation in the water-borne commerce of the United States or in such other transportation by water or such other services as may be deemed by the Maritime Administrator to be in the interest of the national defense or the national economy of the United States, when so engaged.

§ 308.502 Additional insurance.

The assured may place increased value or additional insurance in other markets beyond the amount of insurance provided by the Maritime Administrator, but such insurance must be non-participating with the Maritime Administrator’s coverage, and without benefit of salvage or right of contribution.

§ 308.503 Rate schedules.

Rate schedules published by the Maritime Administrator may be obtained from an underwriting agent. All rate schedules are subject to change by the Maritime Administrator at any time without notice. If no rate is published for a voyage on which war risk coverage is available, the Maritime Administrator will name a rate through an underwriting agent upon application.

§ 308.504 Definition of territories and possessions.

Whenever reference is made to the territories and possessions of the United States in this subpart or in any supplement thereto or any policy of insurance issued pursuant to the provisions thereof, said territories and possessions shall be deemed to include only the Virgin Islands of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto
§ 308.505 General.
The Maritime Administrator is prepared to provide an open cargo war risk insurance policy covering any cargoes described in § 308.501. The policy will be in the standard form of War Risk Open Cargo Policy, Form MA–300, prescribed in § 308.517. All policies will be issued by underwriting agents appointed by the Maritime Administrator. All underwriting agents will be domestic insurance companies authorized to do a marine insurance business in a State of the United States.

§ 308.506 Application for an Open Cargo Policy.
Application for an Open Cargo Policy shall be made by filing Form MA–301, prescribed in § 308.521, with an underwriting agent of the Maritime Administration. The application shall state the applicant’s name and address; the person or persons to whom loss shall be payable; the nature and geographic scope of the shipments to be covered under the policy which shall not be broader than the coverage authorized in § 308.501; the requested effective date, which shall not be earlier than the date of the completion of the requirements for the issuance of the policy; and the basis of valuation to be incorporated in the policy. An applicant may specify one basis of valuation for imports and another for exports, and he may specify different bases of valuation for different commodities or voyages, provided that each basis of valuation specified by the applicant shall define the value by the use of facts which existed prior to the date of the shipment and which are readily ascertainable by either party after the safe arrival or loss of the shipment.

§ 308.507 Security for payment of premiums.
Clause 21 of the policy requires the assured to maintain with the Maritime Administrator a collateral deposit fund or a surety bond, to secure the payment of the premiums, in an amount which shall at all times exceed the unpaid premiums on all risks which have attached under the policy. The minimum amount of the fund or of the surety bond shall be $1,000. Clause 21 also provides that, within seven (7) days from the time knowledge comes to the assured that the amount of the deposit or the surety bond is insufficient to meet the requirements of Clause 21, the assured shall deposit additional collateral or increase the surety bond in an amount not less than double the amount of such insufficiency, and for a sum which shall be a multiple of $500. If the assured fails to increase the deposit or the surety bond within the seven (7) day period, the policy automatically becomes void at the end of the seven (7) day period except as to risks which have attached prior to that date. The procedure for establishing a collateral deposit fund is prescribed in § 308.509, and the procedure for posting and maintaining a surety bond is prescribed in § 308.510. An application for the issuance of an open cargo policy shall be ineffective unless a collateral deposit fund is established and maintained, or a surety bond is posted and maintained, in accordance with the provisions of this section and §§ 308.509 and 308.510.

§ 308.508 Issuance of an Open Cargo Policy.
(a) Time. The underwriting agent will issue an Open Cargo Policy within (15) days after the completion by the applicant of the requirements set forth in §§ 308.506 and 308.507 unless the time for issuance is extended by the Maritime Administrator in writing. The underwriting agent may not make any Open Cargo Policy effective with respect to shipments attaching on a date earlier than the date when the application was completed, but he may make it effective on the date of the completion of the application or any date thereafter requested by the applicant.

(b) Numbering. Each Open Cargo Policy supplied to the underwriting agent by the Maritime Administrator shall be numbered by the Maritime Administration before it is supplied to the underwriting agent. No two numbers shall be the same. The underwriting