which the vessel operates, subject to
the approval of the cognizant OCMI.

Subpart D—Navigation Equipment

§121.402 Compasses.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in
this section every vessel must be fitted
with a suitable magnetic compass de-
signed for marine use, to be mounted
at the primary operating station.

(b) The following vessels need not be
fitted with a compass:

(1) A vessel on a rivers route;
(2) A non-self-propelled vessel; and
(3) A vessel operating on short re-
stricted routes on lakes, bays, and
sounds.

(c) Except on a vessel limited to day-
time operations, the compass must be
illuminated.

§121.404 Radars.

(a) Except as allowed by paragraph
(b) of this section, all self-propelled
vessels must be fitted with a Federal
Communications Commission (FCC)
type accepted general marine radar
system for surface navigation with a
radar screen mounted at the primary
operating station.

(b) The following vessels are not re-
quired to carry a radar:

(1) A ferry that operates on a rivers
route within one mile of land; and
(2) A vessel operated on a short re-
stricted route, when the cognizant
OCMI has determined that a radar is
not necessary due to the vessel’s route
and local weather conditions.

(c) The radar and its installation
must be suitable for the intended speed
and route of the vessel.

§121.410 Electronic position fixing de-
vices.

A vessel on an oceans route must be
equipped with an electronic position
fixing device, capable of providing ac-
curate fixes for the area in which the
vessel operates, to the satisfaction of
the cognizant OCMI.

§121.420 Charts and nautical publica-
tions.

(a) As appropriate for the intended
voyage, a vessel must carry adequate
and up-to-date:

(1) Charts of large enough scale to
make safe navigation possible;
(2) U.S. Coast Pilot or similar publi-
cation;
(3) Coast Guard Light List;
(4) Tide tables; and
(5) Current tables, or a river current
publication issued by the U.S. Army
Corps of Engineers or a river authority.

(b) Extracts from the publications
listed above for the areas to be
transited may be provided instead of
the complete publication.

Subpart E—Radio

§121.502 Requirements of the Federal
Communications Commission.

A vessel must comply with the appli-
cable requirements for any radio and
Electronic Position Indicating Radio-
beacon (EPIRB) installations, includ-
ing the requirements for a station li-
cense and installation certificates to
be issued by the FCC, as set forth in 47
CFR part 80.

§121.506 Emergency broadcast
placard.

A durable placard must be posted
next to all radiotelephone installations
with the emergency broadcast instruc-
tions and information, specific to the
individual vessel.

§121.510 Recommended emergency
broadcast instructions.

The following emergency broadcast
instructions, when placed on a placard,
will satisfy the requirement contained
in §121.506 for an emergency broadcast
placard:

(a) Emergency Broadcast Instruc-
tions.

(1) Make sure your radiotelephone is
on.
(2) Select 156.8 MHz (channel 16 VHF)
or 2182 kHz. (Channel 16 VHF and 2182
kHz on SSB are for emergency and
calling purposes only.)
(3) Press microphone button and,
speaking slowly—clearly—calmly, say:
(i) “MAYDAY—MAYDAY—MAY-
DAY” for situations involving Imme-
diate Danger to Life and Property; or
(ii) “PAN—PAN—PAN” for urgent
situations where there is No Immediate
Danger to Life or Property.
§ 121.602 Internal communications systems.

(a) A vessel equipped with pilothouse control must have a fixed means of two-way communications from the operating station to the location where the means of controlling the propulsion machinery, required by §121.620(a), is located. Twin screw vessels with pilothouse control for both engines are not required to have a fixed communications system.

(b) A vessel equipped with auxiliary means of steering, required by §119.600 of this chapter, must have a fixed means of two-way communications from the operating station to the location where the auxiliary means of steering is controlled.

(c) When the propulsion machinery of a vessel cannot be controlled from the operating station, an efficient communications system must be provided between the operating station and the propulsion machinery space.

(d) When the locations addressed in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section are sufficiently close together, direct voice communications satisfactory to the cognizant OCMI is acceptable instead of the required fixed means of communications.

(e) The OCMI may accept hand held portable radios as satisfying the communications system requirement of this section.

§ 121.610 Public address systems.

(a) Except as noted in paragraph (d) below, each vessel must be equipped with a public address system.

(b) On a vessel of more than 19.8 meters (65 feet) in length, the public address system must be a fixed installation and be audible during normal operating conditions throughout the accommodation spaces and all other spaces normally manned by crew members.

(c) A vessel with more than one passenger deck and a vessel with overnight accommodations must have the public address system operable from the operating station.

(d) On a vessel of not more than 19.8 meters (65 feet) in length, a battery powered bullhorn may serve as the public address system if audible throughout the accommodation spaces of the vessel during normal operating conditions. The bullhorn’s batteries are to be continually maintained at a fully charged level by use of a battery charger or other means acceptable to the cognizant OCMI.