

Inspection of U.S. Vessel," to the cognizant OCMI where the inspection will take place. The owner or managing operator must submit the application at least 30 days before the vessel will undergo the initial inspection for certification. The owner or managing operator must schedule an inspection for this initial certification with the cognizant OCMI at least 3 months before the vessel is to undergo the inspection for certification.

(a) In addition to Form CG-3752, the owner or managing operator must submit:

(1) For initial certification:

- (i) Vessel particular information; and
- (ii) Number of persons in addition to the crew, if requested; or

(2) For a renewal of certification:

- (i) Any changes to the information in paragraph (a)(1) of this section; and
- (ii) A description of any modifications to the vessel.

(b) In addition to Form CG-3752 and the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section, the owner or managing operator of vessels utilizing the TSMS option must submit:

(1) Objective evidence that the owner or managing operator and the vessel are in compliance with the TSMS requirements in part 138 of this subchapter; and

(2) Objective evidence that the vessel's structure, stability, and essential systems comply with the applicable requirements of this subchapter for the intended route and service. This objective evidence may be in the form of a survey report issued by a TPO or another form acceptable to the Coast Guard.

§ 136.212 Inspection for certification.

(a) *Frequency of inspections.* After a towing vessel receives its initial COI, the OCMI will inspect a towing vessel subject to this subchapter located in his or her jurisdiction at least once every 5 years. The OCMI must ensure that every towing vessel is of a structure suitable for its intended route. If the OCMI deems it necessary, he or she may direct the vessel to get underway, and may adopt any other suitable means to test the towing vessel and its equipment.

(b) *Nature of inspection.* The inspection will ensure that the vessel is in satisfactory condition and fit for the service for which it is intended, and that it complies with the applicable statutes and regulations for such vessels. The inspection will include inspections of the structure, pressure vessels and their appurtenances, piping, main and auxiliary machinery, electrical installations, lifesaving appliances, fire detecting and extinguishing equipment, pilot boarding equipment, and other equipment. The inspection will also determine that the vessel is in possession of any valid certificates or licenses issued by the Federal Communications Commission, if required. The inspection will also include an examination of the vessel's lights, means of making sound signals and distress signals, and pollution prevention systems and procedures.

(c) *Time of issuance of COI.* The OCMI will issue a vessel a new COI after the vessel successfully completes the inspection for certification.

§ 136.215 Period of validity.

(a) A COI for a towing vessel is valid for 5 years from the date of issue.

(b) For a towing vessel utilizing the TSMS option, the COI is invalid upon the expiration or revocation of the owner or managing operator TSMS certificate or the ISM Code Certificate.

(c) A COI may be suspended and withdrawn or revoked by the cognizant Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection at any time for noncompliance with the requirements of this subchapter.

§ 136.220 Posting.

(a) The original COI must be framed under glass or other transparent material and posted in a conspicuous place onboard the towing vessel.

(b) If posting is impracticable, the COI must be kept on board in a weathertight container and must be readily available.

§ 136.230 Routes permitted.

(a) The area of operation for each towing vessel and any necessary operational limits are determined by the cognizant OCMI and recorded on the vessel's COI. Each area of operation, referred to as a route, is described on