

regulated ballast tanks by January 1, 1985, or on the date on which it reaches 15 years of age or, in the alternative, that the vessel operate with dedicated clean ballast tanks.

Section 3706(e) requires existing product carriers of 40,000 deadweight tons or above, or to existing product carriers, fitted with high-capacity tank washing machines, of 20,000 deadweight tons but less than 40,000 deadweight tons, to install an inert gas system.

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 115-232 struck out “before January 2, 1986, or the date on which it reaches 15 years of age, whichever is later” before period at end.

**§ 3707. Tanker minimum standards**

(a) A new tanker of at least 10,000 gross tons as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title shall be equipped with—

- (1) 2 remote steering gear control systems operable separately from the navigating bridge;
- (2) the main steering gear control in the steering gear compartment;
- (3) means of communications and rudder angle indicators on the navigating bridge, a remote steering gear control station, and the steering gear compartment;
- (4) at least 2 identical and adequate power units for the main steering gear;
- (5) an alternative and adequate power supply, either from an emergency source of electrical power or from another independent source of power located in the steering gear compartment; and
- (6) means of automatic starting and stopping of power units with attendant alarms at all steering stations.

(b) An existing tanker of at least 10,000 gross tons as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title shall be equipped with—

- (1) 2 remote steering gear control systems operable separately from the navigating bridge;
- (2) the main steering gear control in the steering gear compartment; and
- (3) means of communications and rudder angle indicators on the navigating bridge, a remote steering gear control station, and the steering gear compartment.

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 524; Pub. L. 104-324, title VII, § 716, Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3937.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source section (U.S. Code)
3707(a) .....	46:391a(7)(K)
3707(b) .....	46:391a(7)(L)

Section 3707 requires compliance with certain minimum standards by a tanker, which is a self-propelled tank vessel.

Section 3707(a) requires new tankers of 10,000 gross tons or above, to have two remote steering gear control

systems, a main steering gear control in the steering gear compartment, a means of communications and rudder angle indicators at specified locations, two or more specified power units for the main steering gear, an alternative and adequate power supply of specified characteristics, and a means of automatic operation of power units, with attendant alarms at all steering stations.

Section 3707(b) requires existing tankers of 10,000 gross tons or above, to have two remote steering gear control systems, a main steering gear control in the steering gear compartment, and a means of communication and rudder angle indicators at specified locations.

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-324, § 716(1), inserted “as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title” after “10,000 gross tons” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-324, § 716(2), inserted “as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title” after “10,000 gross tons”.

**§ 3708. Self-propelled tank vessel minimum standards**

A self-propelled tank vessel of at least 10,000 gross tons as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title shall be equipped with—

- (1) a dual radar system with short-range and long-range capabilities, each with true-north features;
- (2) an electronic relative motion analyzer that is at least functionally equivalent to equipment complying with specifications established by the Secretary of Transportation;
- (3) an electronic position-fixing device;
- (4) adequate communications equipment;
- (5) a sonic depth finder;
- (6) a gyrocompass; and
- (7) up-to-date charts.

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 524; Pub. L. 104-324, title VII, § 717, Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3937.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source section (U.S. Code)
3708 .....	46:391a(7)(J)

Section 3708 requires compliance with certain minimum standards by a self-propelled tank vessel. These requirements apply to any tank vessel of 10,000 gross tons or above with no distinction being made as to whether or not the vessel is “primarily” constructed or adapted to carry oil or hazardous material in bulk in the cargo spaces. These vessels are required to be equipped with a dual radar system, a computerized relative motion analyzer, an electronic position fixing device, adequate communications equipment, a sonic depth finder, a gyrocompass, and up-to-date charts.

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-324 inserted “as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage meas-