§ 170.200 Estimated lightweight vertical center of gravity.

(a) Each tank vessel that does not carry a material listed in either Table 1 of part 153 or Table 4 of part 154 of this chapter may comply with this section in lieu of §170.175 if it—

(1) Is 150 gross tons or greater;
(2) Is of ordinary proportions and form;
(3) Has a flush weather deck, one or more longitudinal bulkheads, and no independent tanks; and
(4) Is designed not to carry cargo above the freeboard deck.

(b) When doing the calculations required by §§170.170 and 172.065, the vertical center of gravity of a tank vessel in the lightweight condition must be assumed to be equal to the following percentage of the molded depth of the vessel measured from the keel amidship:

(1) For a tank ship—70%.
(2) For a tank barge—60%.

(c) As used in this section, molded depth has the same meaning that is provided for the term in §42.13–15(e) of this chapter.


Subpart G—Special Installations

§ 170.235 Fixed ballast.

(a) Fixed ballast, if used, must be—

(1) Installed under the supervision of the OCMI; and
(2) Stowed in a manner that prevents shifting of position.

(b) Fixed ballast may not be removed from a vessel or relocated unless approved by the Coast Guard Marine Safety Center. However, ballast may be temporarily moved for vessel examination or repair if done under the supervision of the OCMI.


§ 170.245 Foam flotation material.

(a) Installation of foam must be approved by the OCMI.

(b) If foam is used to comply with §171.070(d), §171.095(c), or §173.063(e) of this subchapter, the following applies:

(1) Foam may be installed only in void spaces that are free of ignition sources.

(2) The foam must comply with NPFC MIL–P–21929B (incorporated by reference; see 46 CFR 170.015), including the requirements for fire resistance.

(3) A submergence test must be conducted for a period of at least 7 days to demonstrate whether the foam has adequate strength to withstand a hydrostatic head equivalent to that which would be imposed if the vessel were submerged to its margin line.

(4) The effective buoyancy at the end of the submergence test must be used as the buoyancy credit; however, in no case will a credit greater than 55 lbs per cubic foot (881 kilograms per cubic meter) be allowed.

(5) The structure enclosing the foam must be strong enough to accommodate the buoyancy of the foam.

(6) Piping and cables must not pass through foamed spaces unless they are within piping and cable trunks accessible from both ends.

(7) Sample specimens must be prepared during installation and the density of the installed foam must be determined.

(8) Foam may be installed adjacent to fuel tanks if the boundary between the tank and space has double continuous fillet welds.

(9) MIL–P–21929B is incorporated by reference into this part.

(10) The results of all tests and calculations must be submitted to the OCMI.

(11) Blocked foam must—

(i) Be used in each area that may be exposed to water; and