§ 28.260 Electronic position fixing devices.

Each vessel 79 feet (24 meters) or more in length must be equipped with an electronic position fixing device capable of providing accurate fixes for the area in which the vessel operates.

§ 28.265 Emergency instructions.

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, each vessel must have emergency instructions posted in conspicuous locations accessible to the crew.

(b) The instructions identified in paragraphs (d)(6), (d)(7), (d)(8), and (d)(9) of this section, may be kept readily available as an alternative to posting.

(c) On a vessel which operates with less than 4 individuals on board, the emergency instructions may be kept readily available as an alternative to posting.

(d) The emergency instructions required by this section must identify at least the following information, as appropriate for the vessel:

1. The survival craft embarkation stations aboard the vessel and the survival craft to which each individual is assigned;

2. The fire and emergency signal and the abandon ship signal;

3. If immersion suits are provided, the location of the suits and illustrated instructions on the method for donning the suits;

4. Procedures for making a distress call, such as:

   (i) Make sure your communication equipment is on.

   (ii) Select 156.8 MHz (VHF channel 16), 2182 kHz, or other distress frequency used in your area of operation. Note: VHF channel 16 and 2182 kHz on SSB are for emergency and calling purposes only.

   (iii) Press microphone button and speaking slowly—clearly—calmly say: “Mayday—Mayday—Mayday”

   (iv) Say: “This is the M/V (Insert name of your vessel), (Insert name of your vessel), (Insert name of your vessel), Over.”

   (v) Release the microphone button briefly and listen for acknowledgment. If no one answers, repeat steps in paragraphs (d)(4)(iii) and (iv) of this section.

   (vi) If there is still no answer, or if the Coast Guard or another vessel responds, say: “Mayday—This is the M/V (Insert Name of Your Vessel),”

   (vii) Describe your position using latitude and longitude coordinates, or range and bearing from a known point.

   (viii) State the nature of the distress.

   (ix) Give number of individuals aboard and the nature of any injuries.

   (x) Estimate the present seaworthiness of your vessel.

   (xi) Describe your vessel: (Insert length, color, hull type, trim, masts,