

(c) Means shall be provided for controlling the cargo or pump room bilge pumps and their suctions or discharges in order that a flooded pump room may be pumped out. Suitable portable or manually operated pumps may be accepted as complying with this provision, or alternatively, the pump controls shall be arranged so that they are operable from inside the pump room and either from an accessible position outside the pump room, or from the pump room casing above the freeboard deck.

**§ 32.52-10 Bilge pumps and piping on tank vessels constructed or converted prior to November 19, 1952—TB/ALL.**

(a) On tank vessels, the construction or conversion of which was started prior to November 19, 1952, bilge pumps and piping which do not fully comply with the regulations of this subchapter shall be made as nearly equal to the requirements for tank vessels constructed on or after November 19, 1952, as is necessary in the interest of safety.

(b) Bilge suctions from hold spaces containing independent cargo tanks may be connected to cargo pumps or stripping pumps, provided the installation complies with the requirements of § 32.52-5(b).

**Subpart 32.53—Inert Gas System**

SOURCE: CGD 74-127, 41 FR 3843, Jan. 26, 1976, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 32.53-1 Application—T/ALL.**

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, this subpart applies to:

(1) A U.S. crude oil tanker or product carrier of 100,000 DWT tons (metric) or more or combination carrier of 50,000 DWT tons (metric) or more, that has a keel laying date on or after January 1, 1975.

(2) A new (as defined in 46 U.S.C. 3701) crude oil tanker or product carrier, or foreign flag crude oil tanker or product carrier of 20,000 DWT tons or more entering the navigable waters of the U.S.

(3) A crude oil tanker that is equipped with a cargo tank cleaning system that uses crude oil washing.

(4) An existing product carrier of 20,000 deadweight tons (metric) or more that has tank washing machines with a capacity of more than 60 cubic meters per hour after May 31, 1983.

(5) Any other U.S. or foreign flag:

(i) Crude oil tanker or product carrier of 70,000 deadweight tons (metric) and over after May 31, 1981;

(ii) Crude oil tanker between 20,000 and 70,000 deadweight tons (metric) after May 31, 1983;

(iii) Product carrier between 40,000 and 70,000 deadweight tons (metric) after May 31, 1983.

(b) This subpart does not apply to vessels designed to carry only:

(1) Liquefied gas cargo; or

(2) Grade E cargo that is carried at a temperature lower than 5 °C below its flash point.

(c) This part does not apply to vessels as stated in 46 U.S.C. 3702.

[CGD 77-057a, 44 FR 66501, Nov. 19, 1979, as amended by CGD 97-057, 62 FR 51043, Sept. 30, 1997; CGD 95-028, 62 FR 51198, Sept. 30, 1997]

**§ 32.53-3 Exemptions.**

(a) The Deputy for Operations Policy and Capabilities (CG-DCO-D) grants exemptions for crude oil tankers of less than 40,000 deadweight tons not fitted with high capacity tank washing machines, if the vessel's owner can show that compliance would be unreasonable and impracticable due to the vessel's design characteristics.

(b) Requests for exemptions must be submitted in writing to: Commandant (CG-OES), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 2nd St. SW., Stop 7126, Washington, DC 20593-7126.

(c) Each request must be supported by documentation showing that:

(1) The system would be detrimental to the safe operation of the vessel;

(2) It is physically impracticable to install the system; or

(3) Adequate maintenance of the system would be impossible.

(d) The vessel's owner may request a conference. The exemption request file will be available for use in the conference and additional arguments or evidence in any form may be presented. The conference will be recorded. The presiding officer summarizes the material presented at the conference and submits written recommendations to