

Coast Guard, DHS

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(e) Means shall be provided to protect nonpressure vessel tanks from excessive external pressure.

(f) Void spaces between the primary and secondary barriers of nonpressure vessel type tanks shall be protected by relief devices. The relief setting shall not be higher than the void test pressure, and shall not exceed 90 percent of the setting of the safety relief valve protecting the primary tank.

[CGFR 68-82, 33 FR 18807, Dec. 18, 1968, as amended by USCG-2014-0688, 79 FR 58280, Sept. 29, 2014]

§ 38.10-20 Liquid level gaging devices—TB/ALL.

(a) Each tank shall be fitted with a liquid level gaging device of approved design to indicate the maximum level to which the tank may be filled with liquid:

(1) Between -20°F . and 130°F . for unrefrigerated service; or,

(2) Within the operating temperature range for tanks operating below atmospheric temperature.

(b) Liquid level gaging devices may be of the following types: Rotary tube, slip tube, magnetic, automatic float, or similar types approved by the Commandant. Except as otherwise provided in this section, fixed tube devices are not acceptable as the primary gaging device.

(c) All gaging devices shall be arranged so that the maximum liquid level for product being carried, to which the tank may be filled is readily determinable. The maximum gallonage capacity as required by § 38.15-1 shall be:

(1) Marked on the tank system nameplate or gaging device; or,

(2) Shown in the ullage tables.

(d) Gaging devices that require bleeding of the product to the atmosphere, such as the rotary tube, fixed tube, and slip tube, shall be so designed that the bleed valve maximum opening is not larger than a No. 54 drill size (0.055-inch diameter), unless provided with an excess flow valve.

(e) For pressure vessel type tanks each automatic float, continuous reading tape or similar type gage not mounted directly on the tank or dome shall be fitted with a shutoff device located as close to the tank as practicable.

When an automatic float gaging device, which gages the entire height of the tank is used, a fixed tube gage set in the range of 85 percent to 90 percent of the water capacity of the tank shall be provided in addition as a means of checking the accuracy of the automatic float, gage, or other alternate means acceptable to the Commandant may be used.

(f) A gaging device shall be designed for a pressure at least equal to the maximum allowable pressure of the tank on which it is installed.

(g) Gage glasses of the columnar type are prohibited.

(h) Flat sight glasses may be used in the design of automatic float continuous reading tape gages: *Provided*, That such glasses shall be made of high strength material suitable for the operating temperatures of not less than one-half inch in thickness and adequately protected by a metal cover.

Subpart 38.15—Special Requirements

§ 38.15-1 Filling of tanks—TB/ALL.

(a) Refrigerated and semirefrigerated tanks shall be filled so that there is an outage of at least 2 percent of the volume of the tank at the temperature corresponding to the vapor pressure of the cargo at the safety relief valve setting. A reduction in the required outage may be permitted by the Commandant when warranted by special design considerations. Normally then, the maximum volume to which a tank may be loaded is:

$$V_L = 0.98 d_r V / d_L$$

where:

V_L = maximum volume to which tank may be loaded.

V = volume of tank.

d_r = density of cargo at the temperature required for a cargo vapor pressure equal to the relief valve setting.

d_L = density of cargo at the loading temperature and pressure.

(b) Nonrefrigerated tanks shall be filled so that their filling densities shall not exceed the ratios indicated in table 38.15-1(b).

(c) The “filling density” is defined as the percent ratio of the weight of the

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gas in a tank to the weight of water the tank will hold at 60 °F.

TABLE 38.15-1(b)—MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE FILLING DENSITIES FOR TANKS OPERATING AT OR NEAR AMBIENT TEMPERATURE

Specific gravity at 60 °F.	Maximum permitted filling density		
	Unlagged tanks—water capacity		Lagged tanks—all capacities
	1,200 gal. and under	Over 1,200 gal.	
0.473-0.480	38	41	42
0.481-0.488	39	42	43
0.489-0.495	40	43	44
0.496-0.503	41	44	45
0.504-0.510	42	45	46
0.511-0.519	43	46	47
0.520-0.527	44	47	48
0.528-0.536	45	48	49
0.537-0.544	46	49	50
0.545-0.552	47	50	51
0.553-0.560	48	51	52
0.561-0.568	49	52	53
0.569-0.576	50	53	54
0.577-0.584	51	54	55
0.585-0.592	52	55	56
0.593-0.600	53	56	57
0.601-0.608	54	57	58
0.609-0.617	55	58	59
0.618-0.626	56	59	60
0.627-0.634	57	60	61

NOTE: Increase in filling densities to provide for seasonal changes may be considered by the Commandant upon presentation of factual evidence that safe operation can be effected.

§ 38.15-5 Cargo hose—TB/ALL.

(a) When the liquid and vapor line hoses used for loading and discharging the cargo are carried on board the vessel, they shall be of flexible metal and fabricated of seamless steel pipe and flexible joints of steel or bronze, or of other suitable material resistant to the action of the cargo. Hose used in refrigerated systems shall be suitable for the minimum temperature to which it may be subjected and shall be acceptable to the Commandant.

(b) Hose subject to tank pressure, or the discharge pressure of pumps or vapor compressors, shall be designed for a bursting pressure of not less than five times the maximum safety relief valve setting of the tank, pump, or compressor.

(c) Before being placed in service each new cargo hose, with all necessary fittings attached, shall be hydrostatically tested by its manufacturer to a pressure not less than twice its maximum working pressure nor more than two-fifth its bursting pressure. The hose shall be marked with its

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maximum working pressure, and if used in refrigerated service, its minimum temperature.

§ 38.15-10 Leak detection systems—T/ALL.

(a) A detection system shall be permanently installed to sense cargo leaks. The detectors shall be located within the space so as to permit the sensing of an initial leak and prevent an undetected gas accumulation. The sensitivity shall be in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section. The detectors shall be fitted in the following compartments:

(1) Between the primary and secondary barriers for nonpressure vessel type tanks.

(2) Cargo handling rooms and spaces containing cargo piping or cargo handling systems.

(3) All enclosed spaces, except tanks and cofferdams, which are separated from the cargo tanks by only the secondary barrier.

(4) Other spaces where gas concentrations might be expected.

(5) Cargo holds, containing pressure vessel type tanks and no cargo piping, are exempt from the requirements of this paragraph.

(b) The indicating instruments for the detection system shall be located on the bridge or at the cargo control station. An audio and visual warning shall be given before any gas concentration reaches 30 percent of the lower explosive limit. The alarm shall indicate both on the bridge and at the cargo control station. Sampling of each detector shall be at least once every half hour.

(c) Means shall be provided to measure the full range of cargo gas concentration in the spaces.

[CGFR 66-33, 31 FR 15269, Dec. 6, 1966, as amended by CGFR 68-65, 33 FR 19985, Dec. 28, 1968]

§ 38.15-15 Electrical installations—TB/ALL.

(a) All electrical installations shall comply with the requirements contained in this subchapter and in subchapter J (Electrical Engineering) of this chapter for tank vessels, except as otherwise specified in this part.