Subpart 39.6000—Tank Barge Cleaning Operations with Vapor Collection

39.6001 Design and equipment of vapor collection and stripping systems—B/ALL.
39.6003 Overpressure and underpressure protection during stripping and gas-freeing operations—B/ALL.
39.6005 Inspection prior to conducting gas-freeing operations—B/ALL.
39.6007 Operational requirements for tank barge cleaning—B/ALL.
39.6009 Barge person in charge: Designation and qualifications—B/ALL.


SOURCE: USCG–1999–5150, 78 FR 42642, July 16, 2013, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart 39.1000—General

§ 39.1001 Applicability—TB/ALL.

(a) This part applies to tank vessels that use a vapor control system (VCS) to collect vapors emitted to or from a vessel’s cargo tanks while operating in the navigable waters of the United States, except—

(1) Tank vessels with an operating vapor collection system approved by the Coast Guard prior to July 23, 1990, for the collection and transfer of cargo vapor to specific facilities. Such tank vessels are only subject to 46 CFR 39.1013, 39.3001, and 39.4005; and

(2) A tank barge that collects vapors emitted from its cargo tanks during gas-freeing or cleaning operations at a cleaning facility. This type of tank barge is only subject to 46 CFR §39.6000, and must comply with requirements of these two subparts at the time of its next inspection for certification required by 46 CFR 31.10–15, but no later than August 15, 2018.

(b) This part does not apply to the collection of vapors of liquefied flammable gases as defined in 46 CFR 30.10–39.

(c) In this part, regulatory measurements, whether in the metric or English system, are sometimes followed by approximate equivalent measurements in parentheses, which are given solely for the reader’s convenience. Regulatory compliance with the regulatory measurement is required.

§ 39.1003 Definitions—TB/ALL.

As used in this part only:

Barge vapor connection means the point in a barge’s piping system where it connects to a vapor collection hose or arm. This may be the same as the barge’s cargo connection while controlling vapors during tank barge cargo tank-cleaning operations.

Cargo deck area means that part of the weather deck that is directly over the cargo tanks.

Cleaning facility means a facility used or capable of being used to conduct cleaning operations on a tank barge.

Cleaning operation means any stripping, gas-freeing, or tank-washing operation of a barge’s cargo tanks conducted at a cleaning facility.

Commandant means the Commandant (CG–ENG), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 2nd St. SW., Stop 7126, Washington, DC 20593–7126.

Facility vapor connection means the point in a facility’s fixed vapor collection system where the system connects with the vapor collection hose or the base of the vapor collection arm.

Fixed stripping line means a pipe extending to the low point of each cargo tank, which is welded through the deck and terminated above deck with a valve, and plugged at the open end.

Flammable liquid means a liquid as defined in 46 CFR 30.10–22.

Fluid displacement system means a system that removes vapors from a barge’s cargo tanks during gas freeing through the addition of an inert gas or other medium into the cargo tank.

Fluid injection connection means the point in a fluid displacement system at which the fixed piping or hose that supplies the inert gas or other medium connects to a barge’s cargo tanks or fixed piping system.

Gas freeing means the removal of vapors from a tank barge.