

98-01: Cargo Securing Manual Requirements

Information

Action

INFORMATION

The deadline for all vessel owners to have CARGO SECURING MANUALS (CSM) as required by the 1994 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea was December 31st 1997. The Coast Guard recently announced the publication of Navigation and Inspection Circular 10-97 (NVIC.) This NVIC provides the guidance for the preparation of the Cargo Securing Manuals for U.S. flag vessels. The CSM is required to maintain compliance with the vessel's Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate. The Coast Guard has delegated CSM approval authority for U.S. vessels to the American Bureau of Shipping and the National Cargo Gear Bureau, Inc. and will be implementing a regulatory project to put NVIC 10-97 criteria into regulation.

ACTION

Members are requested to review NVIC 10-97, and ensure that CSMs are prepared, approved and carried aboard their vessels. Operators of non U.S. flag vessels can expect that U.S. Coast Guard Port Safety Inspectors will request to see their Cargo Securing Manuals as part of routine Port State dockside boardings. PMA will track any regulatory initiatives on this subject. Copies of the NVIC can be obtained from the Area Accident Prevention Coordinators, or it can be obtained directly from the internet at http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nvic/10_97/n10-97.htm

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