



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

Commandant
U.S. Coast Guard
Directorate of Marine Safety, Security & Stewardship
2100 Second Street, SW, Stop 7126
Washington, DC 20593

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Contact: Ms. Sara Ju
Phone: (202) 372-1422
E-Mail: Sara.S.Ju@uscg.mil

Marine Vapor Control Systems Proposed Rule Published

The U.S. Coast Guard announced today publication of a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register to amend Coast Guard regulations governing marine vapor control systems (VCSs).

VCSs are used to collect volatile organic compounds and other environmental pollutants that are emitted during loading and other operations of a marine tank vessel. Coast Guard regulations do not require any vessel or facility to use VCSs, but provide safety requirements for vessels or facilities that do use them. The proposed changes would revise the existing safety regulations for facility and vessel VCSs to be more compatible with new Federal and State environmental requirements. The changes would also regulate industry advancements in VCS technology and codify the standards in the design and operation of a VCS at a tank barge cleaning facility. This rulemaking promotes the Coast Guard's strategic goals of maritime safety and environmental protection.

The proposed rule and related materials may be reviewed online at <http://www.regulations.gov>, docket number: USCG-1999-5150.

For more information on this rulemaking, please contact Ms. Sara Ju at (202) 372-1422 or Sara.S.Ju@uscg.mil.

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