§ 15.830

MMC authorizing service as an assistant engineer.

(b) The Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection determines the minimum number of credentialed engineers required for the safe operation of inspected vessels.


§ 15.830 Radio officers.

Radio officers are required on certain merchant vessels of the United States. The determination of when a radio officer is required is based on the Federal Communications Commission requirements.

§ 15.835 Staff officers.

Staff officers, when carried, must be registered as specified in part 11 of this chapter.


§ 15.840 Able seamen.

(a) With certain exceptions, 46 U.S.C. 8702 applies to all vessels of at least 100 gross tons. At least 65 percent of the deck crew of these vessels, excluding individuals serving as officers, must be able seamen. For vessels permitted to maintain a two watch system, the percentage of able seamen may be reduced to 50 percent.

(b) Able seamen are rated as: unlimited, limited, special, offshore supply vessel, sail, and fishing industry, under the provisions of part 12 of this chapter. 46 U.S.C. 7312 specifies the categories of able seamen (i.e., unlimited, limited, etc.) necessary to meet the requirements of 46 U.S.C. 8702.

(c) It is the responsibility of the master or person in charge to ensure that the able seamen in the service of the vessel meet the requirements of 46 U.S.C. 7312 and 8702.


§ 15.845 Lifeboatmen.

The number of lifeboatmen required for a vessel are specified in the parts of the regulations dealing with the inspection of that specific type of vessel.

§ 15.850 Lookouts.

The requirements for the maintenance of a proper lookout are specified in Rule 5 of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1602(c)), and Rule 5 of the Inland Navigational Rules Act of 1980 (33 U.S.C. 2005). Lookout is a function to be performed by a member of a navigational watch.

§ 15.855 Cabin watchmen and fire patrolmen.

(a) On vessels carrying passengers at night, the master or person in charge shall ensure that a suitable number of watchmen are in the vicinity of the cabins or staterooms and on each deck, to guard against and give alarm in case of fire or other danger.

(b) On a fish processing vessel of more than 100 gross tons, there must be a suitable number of watchmen trained in firefighting on board when hot work is being done, to guard against and give alarm in case of a fire.

(c) For the watchmen described in paragraph (a) of this section, the owner or operator of an uninspected passenger vessel not more than 300 gross tons may substitute the use of fire detectors, heat detectors, smoke detectors, and high-water alarms with audible- and visual-warning indicators, in addition to other required safety alarms, only when each of the following conditions are met:

1. Fire detectors are located in each space containing machinery or fuel tanks per § 181.400(c) of this chapter.

2. All grills, broilers, and deep-fat fryers are fitted with a grease extraction hood per § 181.425 of this chapter.

3. Heat and/or smoke detectors are located in each galley, public accommodation space, enclosed passageway, berthing space, and all crew spaces.

4. High-water alarms are located in each space with a through hull fitting below the deepest load waterline, a machinery space bilge, bilge well, shaft alley bilge, or other space subject to flooding from sea water piping within the space, and a space below the waterline with non-watertight closure such...