

International and US-flag vessel operators must comply with the following USCG (United States Coast Guard) chemical testing regulations, effective June 20, 2006: Any individual engaged or employed on board a vessel operating in US waters who is involved in a serious marine incident must be tested for drugs and alcohol. Alcohol testing must be conducted within two hours of when the serious marine incident occurred.

Drug testing must be conducted within 32 hours of when the serious marine incident occurred. The USCG defines a serious marine incident as:

- One or more deaths;
- An injury that requires medical treatment beyond first aid;
- Damage to property over \$100,000;
- Actual or constructive loss of any inspected vessel;
- Actual or constructive loss of any uninspected, self-propelled vessel of 100-gross tons or more;
- Discharge of 10,000 gallons or more of oil into US waters;
- A reportable discharge of a hazardous substance into US waters or release of reportable quantities of hazardous material into the US environment.

All drug and alcohol test results must be reported to the USCG on the Form 2692B (Report of Required Chemical Testing Following a Serious Marine Incident). All alcohol testing devices must be currently listed on the "Conforming Products List" (CPL) which is published in the Federal Register. All vessel operators must have a sufficient number of urine-specimen collection, shipping kits and DOT Chain-of-Custody Forms (COC) meeting the requirements of 49 CFR Part 40 that are readily accessible for use following a serious marine incident (46 CFR Part 4, Section 4.06-20)

The laboratory must be certified by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency ("SAMHSA"). Only SAMHSA certified laboratories are authorized to perform DOT and USCG testing. The Medical Review Officer ("MRO") must be certified. The MRO is the physician/toxicologist who reviews and verifies the drug test results. The USCG will not authorize medical practitioners to perform MRO functions unless they have nationally recognized certification (49 CFR 40.121).

Vessel personnel, who are assigned drug and alcohol testing functions following a serious marine incident, must be trained pursuant to the following requirements:

(a) Basic Information & Methodology of Regulatory Testing: knowledge of DOT regulation, Part 40, current DOT specimen collection procedures and the USCG's chemical testing regulations.

(b) Qualification Training: all steps necessary to complete a specimen collection correctly; knowledge of problem collections, fatal and correctable flaws, securing the specimen collection facility, ensuring privacy, security of the specimen and professional conduct.

(c) Initial Proficiency Training: the vessel supervisor must conduct five error-free mock specimen collections, which must include - two uneventful collections, one insufficient quantity collection, one temperature out of range and one refusal to sign or initial the chain-of-custody form. The proficiency demonstration must be performed in front of an authorized person who monitors and evaluates the proficiency.