



## Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston Marine Safety Information Bulletin 13-22

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### Restricted Tankerman-PIC (Barge) at Tank Cleaning and Gas Freeing Facilities

Sector Houston-Galveston Facility and Vessel Inspectors recently identified that bulk liquid oil and hazardous materials transfer operations are taking place at tank cleaning and gas freeing facilities without a Tankerman endorsement as required by Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) [Section 155.710](#). Recognizing that these types of transfers as defined in [46 CFR § 39.1003](#) are different in size and complexity from traditional bulk liquid transfers, I have engaged with the National Maritime Center (NMC), Regional Exam Center (REC) Houston, and industry representatives to identify a way forward that allows for an appropriate Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC).

For the Sector Houston-Galveston Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection (OCMI) area of responsibility, Restricted Tankerman-PIC (Barge) endorsements restricted to a tank-cleaning and gas-freeing facility as defined by [46 CFR § 13.111 \(d\)](#) are authorized to act as the Person in Charge (PIC) for tank cleaning and gas freeing operations. Additionally this office defines 46 CFR § 13.111 (d) section (4), “knowledge necessary to supervise tank-cleaning and gas-freeing” as prior experience conducting transfers that includes at least 5 commencements of discharge and 5 conclusions of discharge, totaling at least 10 transfers.

Companies utilizing this approval should submit a letter referencing this Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) explicitly stating that the applicant meets all requirements of both this MSIB and 46 CFR § 13.111 (d) along with an Application for Merchant Mariner Credential ([Form CG-719B](#)) and all required supporting material to REC Houston. Further information on applying for an MMC can be found at the [NMC website](#).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. E. SMITH".

J. E. SMITH  
Captain, United States Coast Guard  
Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection  
Houston-Galveston