



# SAFETY MANAGEMENT MANUAL

## 7.4 SHIP STABILITY POLICY

Originator:	Approved By:
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### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this section is to establish responsibility and guidance for managing ship stability.

### 2. Reference

46 CFR 42.15-1(b), 46 CFR 170.110, 46 CFR 170.120(a), 46 CFR 196.12-1, 46 CFR 196.15-7, 46 CFR 196.35-5(d)  
Individual Vessel Stability Letters  
Individual Vessel Trim and Stability Booklets

### 3. Responsibilities

- 3.1 The Ship Operations Group through the Port Engineer will insure that all current baseline stability data are current, accurate and available to the Masters, that changes to the vessels are controlled and managed to insure compliance with applicable regulations. This includes scheduling and conducting stability tests as necessary.
- 3.2 The Ship Operations Group will insure that each vessel is provided with a current trim and stability booklet and such computerized systems as may be available.
- 3.3 The Master will ensure that various loads are managed so that the stability requirements are met.

### 4. Procedures

- 4.1 Stability calculation must be made and recorded at the beginning of each cruise or leg and at any other time the Master deems appropriate. (As for example when significant changes in load take place.)
- 4.2 Each vessel's Trim and Stability Booklet provides instructions and information for calculating that vessel's stability. The Master must ensure that he or she and selected mates are instructed and competent to perform such calculations.
- 4.3 Each ship has been provided with computerized software to facilitate stability calculations. The Master must ensure that they and the mates they designate are instructed in the use of this software.



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### 5. Records

- 5.1 The Master is required to record in the official log that verification of the vessel's stability has been calculated prior to the departure of the vessel and at other times necessary to assure the safety of the vessel.
  
- 5.2 Calculations verifying vessel stability are required to be maintained on board the vessel for the duration of the voyage. Calculations verifying stability that are made in the computer program must be saved and retained for the voyage.