



## Certificate of Compliance Exam

Panama Canal COC Program, Balboa Anchorage

### Location

U.S. Coast Guard Liquefied Gas Carrier National Center of Expertise (LGC NCOE) provides a COC examination as a service LNG and LPG vessels with a current contract to load cargo at US ports. We will conduct COCs (renewal/annual) based on availability of our resources. This service is provided at the Balboa Anchorage, at the south end of the Panama Canal.

### Scheduling

The exam should be scheduled at least one week in advance of the requested exam date. Earlier requests are recommended. A statement that the vessel will be loading at a US port is required to be submitted. The exam cannot be conducted if the vessel is unable to provide the statement.

The schedule will be set approximately five days in advance.

The following priority will be utilized:

- i. Cargo Restricted (No valid COC or is past their anniversary date)
- ii. Within COC window
- iii. Deficiency checks for Major Non-Conformities or Detentions
- iv. Outside of COC window
- v. Deficiency checks, requiring on board U.S. Coast Guard presence.
- vi. In the event two ships of equal prioritization request an exam on the same day, the preference will be given to the ship with the earliest assigned transit date. If neither of these are known the earliest request will be honored first.

### Fees

User fees are required to be paid prior to the exam. These fees include the annual tankship inspection fee of \$1100.00 and the overseas user fee payment of \$4585.00. These payments can be made at the Coast Guard Finance Center, <https://www.uscg.mil/fincen/VIF/>. In addition to the above fees, the applicant is responsible for reimbursing the U.S. government the cost of travel to and from the location of the inspection, lodging, and daily expenses.

***Please do not remit payment until we have confirmed our attendance and instructed by our office to do so.***

## Inspection Requests

- The Subchapter O Endorsement (SOE) **MUST** be received prior to requesting a COC exam.
- Complete the LGC NCOE GAS CARRIER INFORMATION SHEET in its entirety and e-mail to [LGCNCOE@uscg.mil](mailto:LGCNCOE@uscg.mil).
  - The address on the application for inspection will be the company responsible for billing.
  - Include the **NEXT** U.S. port at which the vessel will load cargo.
- Applications for Inspection should be submitted a **minimum 7 days** in advance of the requested exam date.
- Once the application is received, the COC coordinator will contact you.

### **COC Examination**

The vessel will need to be available for inspection between 0800 and 1600. Additionally, no cargo operations will take place until the attending inspector feels that the COC inspection has progressed to a point where cargo and/or bunker operations will not interfere with ongoing inspection.

By requesting this inspection, you acknowledge that the local Port State Control will be informed if any Major Non-Conformities or Detainable deficiencies are identified during the exam. Additionally, no COC or Port State Control forms will be issued if Major Non-Conformities or Detainable deficiencies are identified.

### **Documentation**

In preparation for your exam, and to avoid unnecessary delays, it is strongly suggested that you submit copies of the following documents as applicable to your vessel:

- Statement of the intended loading port in the US.
- Continuous Synopsis Record – All pages & prior versions.
- Certificate of Fitness including any attachments
- Cargo stowage plan
- International Safety Management Certificate
- International Load Line Certificate
- International Safety Construction
- Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate
- International Ship Security Certificate
  
- Certificate of Class
- Current or expired Certificate of Compliance
- Document of Compliance
- Ships Particulars
- Tonnage
- Crew List
- Set / Seal Certificate (MARVS) for Gas Carriers

### **UPON CONFIRMATION OF YOUR EXAM DATE**

- Paid receipt for COC
- Paid receipt for the Overseas Inspection Fee
- An email address for the Owner and Operator of the vessel

Please email all documents to [LGCNCOE@USCG.MIL](mailto:LGCNCOE@USCG.MIL)

Please make the following documents available for the exam team **on board** the vessel:

- Current COC
- Licenses and endorsements for the Captain, Chief Officer, Chief Engineer, Second Engineer
- Cargo Operations Manual
- Oil Record Book

During the exam, Examiners may review all of the documents and manuals listed in the attachment. In order to expedite the exam, please have all of the required documents and manual available at a single location for review. The scope of the exam will include all relevant documents, cargo control room, gas detection system, cargo motor and compressor rooms, on deck piping and various equipment.

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