



## Marine Safety Center Technical Note

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MTN 01-11  
16710  
July 12, 2011

Subj: PLAN APPROVAL EXTENSION PROCEDURES

Ref: (a) Title 46 CFR Subpart 50.20-15, Previously Approved Plans  
(b) Title 46 CFR Subpart 116.210, Plans for Sister Vessels  
(c) Title 46 CFR Subpart 177.210, Plans for Sister Vessels  
(d) Marine Safety Manual, Vol. IV, Chapter 1, Section D, Plans and Specifications  
(e) Marine Safety Manual, Vol. IV, Chapter 6, Section D.2, Sister Vessels  
(f) Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) No. 14-81, Stability Tests; Waiving of for "Sister Vessels"

1. Purpose: This Marine Safety Center Technical Note (MTN) provides guidance to the marine industry for requesting plan approval extension (PAE) for plans previously approved by the Marine Safety Center (MSC).

2. Background: References (a) through (d) discuss the extension of previously approved plans for the construction of new vessels; however, the procedures for requesting plan approval extension from the MSC are not addressed in these documents.

3. Discussion:

- a. A vessel owner or builder may desire to extend approval for plans and calculations previously marked "Approved" or "Examined" by the MSC to additional vessels. Plan approval extension should not be confused with "sister vessel" determinations. A sister vessel determination is used specifically to waive a stability test and is not the subject of this MTN; further discussion is provided in references (e) and (f). Plan approval extension involves the identification of previously approved system plans or calculations for one vessel for use in the construction of other vessels.
- b. The MSC applies the following criteria when evaluating PAE requests:
  - i. To be eligible for plan approval extension, plans must be identical to the originally approved plans (i.e. no modifications or revisions are permitted). Similarly, plans altered to bring them into compliance with regulations which became effective after the date the plans were originally approved are not eligible for plan approval extension.
  - ii. All comments contained in the original MSC approval letters remain applicable.

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- iii. The submitter must certify that they are the owner of the originally approved plans or that they have the legal owner's permission to request plan approval extension of the originally approved plans.
4. Applicability: The guidelines provided in this MTN apply to all plans and calculations which have previously been marked either "Approved" or "Examined" by MSC personnel.
  5. Action:
    - a. To request plan approval extension, complete enclosure (1) and submit it to the MSC with a cover letter and a copy of the new vessel's Application for Inspection. The preferred method for submitting enclosure (1) is via our Electronic Commerce (EC) address: [msc@uscg.mil](mailto:msc@uscg.mil).
    - b. If the PAE request is granted, the MSC will return enclosure (1) accompanied by a letter providing additional information to the submitter.
    - c. If the PAE request for any plan is denied, MSC will mark the "Denied" column on the PAE Request Form for the respective plan and an explanation will be provided in our letter.
    - d. After plan approval extension is granted, the submitter must provide the following to the cognizant OCMI:
      - i. PAE Request Form and accompanying MSC letter.
      - ii. A copy of each plan listed on the PAE Request Form.
      - iii. All MSC approval letters corresponding to the original plans.
    - e. To request plan approval extension for plans previously approved by an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI) or an authorized classification society (ACS) acting on behalf of the Coast Guard, the OCMI or ACS should be contacted directly.

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6. Disclaimer: While the guidance contained in this document may assist the industry, the public, the Coast Guard, and other Federal and State agencies in applying statutory and regulatory requirements, this guidance is not a substitute for the applicable legal requirements, nor is it in itself a regulation. It is not intended to, nor does it impose legally binding requirements on any party, including the Coast Guard, other Federal agencies, the States, or the regulated community.



P. E. LITTLE

Encl: (1) Plan Approval Extension (PAE) Request Form

Copy: Commandant (CG-521), Office of Design and Engineering Standards  
Commandant (CG-543), Office of Vessel Activities

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sheet \_\_\_ of \_\_\_

## MARINE SAFETY CENTER PLAN APPROVAL EXTENSION REQUEST FORM

**Directions:**

1. Complete the table below with all approved plans and corresponding MSC approval letters for which plan approval extension is requested.
2. Electronically submit this form with a copy of the vessel's Application for Inspection directly to the MSC (MSC@USCG.mil), or submit a paper copy to our mailing address:

Commanding Officer (MSC)  
2100 2nd St SW Stop 7102  
Washington, DC 20593-7102

<b>NAME AND IDENTIFICATION (O.N., CG NUMBER) OF VESSEL FOR WHICH PLANS WERE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED:</b>
<b>NAME AND IDENTIFICATION OF VESSEL(S) TO WHICH PLAN APPROVAL IS TO BE EXTENDED:</b>

Drawing Number	# of Sheets	Rev. #	Drawing Title	MSC Project Number	Approval Date	Approval Letter Serial Number	Denied (MSC Use)

**By submission of this form, I hereby certify that I am the legal owner of the plans and documents listed herein; or, have the permission of the legal owner to request plan approval extension on their behalf.**

(MSC Use) This PAE Request is addressed in MSC letter Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosure (1) to MTN 01-11