

For CG-82 use only	Requestor: H. CG&MT	DHS review required?
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REGULATION/POLICY TO ALLOW CG TO ISSUE 2 YR CERTIFICATE TO DH MODU

QUESTION: Please provide the regulation or policy that allows the Coast Guard to issue a 2 year certificate to the MODU DEEPWATER HORIZON.

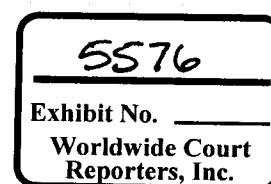
ANSWER: The policy that officially changed the one-year certification of foreign MODUs to the current two-year certification cycle with a required annual re-examination, also changed the title of the certificates issued from a "Letter of Compliance" to a "Certificate of Compliance" (COC). These changes were part of a Coast Guard policy announcement released via official message 20 November 2001 (attached as reference).

The regulations governing "Outer Continental Shelf Activities" 33 CFR Subchapter N, which contains Section 143.210 "Letter of Compliance", are currently undergoing an extensive regulation update. The changes to the certificate title and issuing period of the COC will be reflected in the revised publication of Subchapter N.

Since the November 2001 policy change, COCs have been issued biennially. However, in order to maintain valid certification and continue to operate on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf, MODUs are required to undergo a satisfactory Coast Guard COC annual re-examination, no later than fifteen (15) months from the anniversary date their COC was issued. The procedures for conducting the annual re-examination are identical in scope to the COC examination. The notable difference between the two examinations is that the Coast Guard does not issue a COC during the annual re-examination, but only endorses the current COC aboard the MODU to indicate its validity.

The DEEPWATER HORIZON's initial Coast Guard examination for certification was completed 15 August 2001. Since then, it had undergone a Coast Guard compliance examination annually for a total of nine (9) compliance examinations. During these nine inspections, the Coast Guard issued a total of two deficiencies that required corrective action. These deficiencies were considered minor.

During every Coast Guard compliance examination on the DEEPWATER HORIZON, the MODU was found to be in satisfactory operating condition and "fit for its intended service."



Congressional Staff, DHS, OMB & Other Misc Q&As

#Q&As-03092

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NOTES/REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Place information below that you wish all levels of review to be aware of.
HOWEVER, Information from this point on will not be provided to the Witness.

Directorate/Program Notes:

CG-82 Notes (why changes were made to question):

CLEARANCE SHEET (click to annotate clearance)

Referenced materials

Coast Guard Policy Announcement dtd 20 November 2001	<u>Attachment</u>
	Link
	Link