



Technical Circular

No.: 007/2026

Date: 05th March 2026

Subject: USCG - Performance-Driven Certificate of Compliance (COC) Examination Schedule

1. The Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance (CG-CVC) has announced the start of its pilot program to implement a "**Performance-Driven Certificate of Compliance (COC) Examination Schedule**" for foreign tank vessels, effective **1 March 2026**.
2. The pilot program is essentially a new, **risk-based inspection approach** for foreign tank vessels.
3. The purpose of this pilot program is to evaluate a new data-driven model in a controlled operational environment. This initiative will help identify potential challenges, gather direct feedback, and refine the process to support successful Coast Guard-wide implementation. The ultimate goal is to modernize the examination process **by rewarding high-performing vessels**, optimizing Coast Guard resources, and maintaining stringent safety standards.
4. **Preliminary Program Details (subject to change based on the pilot program):**
 - a. Authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026, the "**Performance-Driven Certificate of Compliance (COC) Examination Schedule**" introduces a modernized approach to the annual examination cycle for foreign tank vessels.
 - b. This new program:
 - i. Allows the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI) to credit a high-performing vessel's annual examination requirement based on a comprehensive review of its safety and performance profile, in lieu of a physical, on-board inspection.
 - ii. Offers a different path for fulfilling the annual, mid-period requirement, while **the comprehensive on-board examination required every two years for Certificate of Compliance (COC) renewal remains unchanged**.
 - c. This program applies exclusively to foreign tank vessels and does not change COC examination requirements for passenger vessels or Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (MODUs).



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5. Inquiries regarding this pilot program may be forwarded to CVC-2 at portstatecontrol@uscg.mil

Enclosure: None

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