



# Marine Safety Information Bulletin

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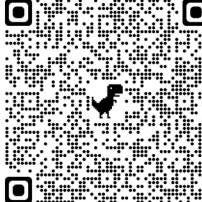
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## Guidance for Facilities that Transfer Oil/Hazardous Materials in Bulk

This Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) serves to educate and remind all waterfront facility owners and operators of the contents and encourage the use of Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 06-17, “Pipeline and Hose Testing Guidance for Marine Transportation-Related Facilities (MTR) Handling Oil or Hazardous Material in Bulk,” which was published on December 7, 2017. The Coast Guard recently responded to a pollution incident caused by leaking subterranean transfer lines that discharged hazardous materials into the marine and terrestrial environment. In the subsequent investigation, the Coast Guard found that the annual pressure testing of the aged transfer lines suspected in the discharge fell below Coast Guard and industry standards. Appropriate testing of oil transfer lines, conducted to Coast Guard and industry standards, can prevent significant environmental and property damage as well as financial losses.

The Coast Guard is responsible for pollution prevention at MTR facilities. Specifically, this authority applies to each facility that is capable of transferring oil or hazardous materials in bulk, to or from a vessel, where the vessel has a total capacity from a combination of all bulk products carried of 250 barrels or more. NVIC 06-17 provides expanded pipeline and hose testing guidance for facilities regulated pursuant to 33 CFR 154 and 33 CFR 156 Subpart A, where oil transfer piping systems must be tested from the dock loading arm or manifold up to the first valve encountered after the pipe enters the secondary containment area. Operators must take special care when maintaining and testing subterranean pipes that cannot be visually examined. In these cases, adequate testing is often the only way to identify hazardous conditions in subterranean transfer lines, absent a leak or spill.

If you have questions regarding applicability or compliance with existing regulations, it is strongly recommended that you contact your local Coast Guard Sector or Marine Safety Unit Facilities Office for guidance.

NVIC 06-17	Coast Guard Maritime Commons
	
<a href="https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/5ps/NVIC/2017/NVIC_6-17.pdf">https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/5ps/NVIC/2017/NVIC_6-17.pdf</a>	<a href="https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2017/12/11/1282017-new-nvic-available-pipeline-and-hose-testing-guidance-for-facilities-handling-oil-hazmat/">https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2017/12/11/1282017-new-nvic-available-pipeline-and-hose-testing-guidance-for-facilities-handling-oil-hazmat/</a>