

Contact for the Liquefied Gas Carrier National Center of Expertise COC program is LGCNCOE@uscg.mil

### 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, at this time.

### Scheduling

The exam should be scheduled at least two weeks in advance of the requested exam date. A voyage contract stating 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 voyage contract.

The schedule will be set approximately seven 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.***

### 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.

### Required Documentation

All LNG or LPG carriers must include the following:

- Voyage contract to load cargo(es) in U.S.
- Proof of user fee payment
- Vessel Particulars (Specification)
- Continuous Synopsis Record
- Certificate of Fitness (COF)
- Copy of USCG Subchapter O endorsement

- International Pollution Prevention Certificate for the carriage of Noxious Liquid Substances (NLS), if applicable
- International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate (IOPP) including Form B Supplement
- Safety Management Certificate (SMC) and Document of Compliance (DOC)
- Copy of current or expired COC (if not initial visit to the U.S.)
- Approved Vessel Response Plan

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## Inspection Requests

- The 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.
  - 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 15 days** in advance of the requested exam date.
- Once the application is received, the COC coordinator will contact you.