

**MODU Option “B”
Panama (PN)**

June 6, 1986: CG completed an evaluation of Panama’s rules (Technical Note 1/83) for “existing” units to U.S. rules (NVIC 4-78) and granted an equivalency to the requirements under 46 CFR Part 108, with certain exceptions. The exceptions (additional requirements) are noted in Enclosure (1) of G-MVI-4 approval letter 16703-dated June 6, 1986.

Therefore, MODUs that:

- a. Are documented under the laws of Panama,
- b. Are built, under construction or contract **prior to** April 5, 1982,
- c. Hold, and are in compliance with, a valid Panamanian MODU Safety Certificate issued under Technical Note 1/83, **and**
- d. Are in compliance with the additional requirements identified in Enclosure (1)

Are eligible to receive a CG COC (Option “B”), after a satisfactory inspection, to engage in OCS activities on the U.S. OCS. **Important:** There was **NO equivalency** granted for 46 CFR Part 109, so it **DOES APPLY** to PN “existing” vessels.

Technical Note 1/83

Part “A” of PN Technical Note 1/83 applies to **ALL** PN flagged MODUs. It provides Panama’s interpretation of certain sections of the 1979 MODU Code.

Part “B” of PN Technical Note 1/83 applies to **EXISTING** PN flagged MODUs and elaborates on the general principles which shall be used to establish the suitability of an existing PN MODU to conduct international operations.

Panamanian flagged vessels that choose to utilize Option “B” will have a PN MODU Safety Certificate, which states: ***“As modified by the guidelines of the Administration for its application to existing units”***.

The table below shows the PN Technical Note 1/83 cites that require you to use additional references:

PN TECHNICAL NOTE 1/83		INTERNATIONAL REFERENCES
Part B	5.1	International Convention on Load Lines
Part B	6.2 (Self-Propelled Only)	SOLAS 74
Part B	9.2 – 9.3	SOLAS 74
Part A	1	1979 MODU Code
Part B	1.3	1979 MODU Code
Part B	7.2.1 – 7.2.3	1979 MODU Code
Part B	7.5	1979 MODU Code
Part B	8.5	1979 MODU Code
Part B	9.6	1979 MODU Code
Part B	10	1979 MODU Code
Part B	12.1	1979 MODU Code

The table below shows the additional CG specific cites that require you to use additional references:

Note: It is important to use the correct version of Subchapters J and I-A, depending on the MODU's build date.

PN TECHNICAL NOTE 1/83		REFERENCES
Stability/Freeboard Operating Requirements	4	33 CFR 146.205 46 CFR 109
Machinery & Electrical Installations	5	46 CFR 108.170 through .177
Fire Safety Structural	6	46 CFR 108.123 46 CFR 108.127
Fire Safety Helo Decks	7	46 CFR 108.486 through .496 46 CFR 108.653
Lifesaving Appliances Lifeboats	8	SOLAS 74 46 CFR 160.035
Lifesaving Appliances (Equipment For)	9	SOLAS 74 46 CFR 108.503 & .505
Lifesaving Appliances Life Preservers/Exposure Suits	11	46 CFR 108.505 33 CFR 144.30