



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REGULATIONS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

13316

[HM Docket No. 124; Notice No. 75-2]

**BOTTOM OUTLET VALVES ON MC-312
CARGO TANKS**

Proposed Rulemaking

The Hazardous Materials Regulations Board (the Board) is considering amending § 178.343-5(b) of the Hazardous Materials Regulations which specifies that outlet valves must be protected by a shear section.

The Board was petitioned by the Truck Trailer Manufacturer's Association to provide alternative means of protecting outlet valves on motor vehicles to assure against the accidental escape of liquid cargoes. They suggested the change for two reasons: (1) The change would provide for an alternative protection of the valve equivalent to the protection offered by the presently required valve shear section, and (2) this change will allow the use of valves unavailable with shear section.

After reviewing the data submitted in support of the petition, the Board has concluded that the petitioner's contention may have merit.

In consideration of the foregoing 49 CFR Part 178 would be revised as follows:

(A) In § 178.343-5(b) subparagraph (1) (i) would be revised and (ii) would be added as follows:

§ 178.343-5 Outlets.

(b)

(1) Product piping must be protected in such a manner as to reasonably assure against the accidental escape of contents. Such protection may be provided by:

(i) A shear section located out-board of each emergency valve seat and within 4 inches of the vessel which will break under strain and leave the emergency

valve seat and its attachment to the vessel and the valve head intact and capable of retaining product. The shear section shall be machined in such a manner as to abruptly reduce the wall thickness of the adjacent piping (or valve) material by at least 20 percent; or

(ii) By suitable guards capable of successfully absorbing a concentrated horizontal force of at least 8,000 pounds applied from any horizontal direction, without damage to the discharge piping which will adversely affect the product retention integrity of the discharge valve.

Interested persons are invited to give their views on this proposal. Communications should identify the docket number and be submitted in duplicate to the Secretary, Hazardous Materials Regulations Board, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590. Communications received on or before June 24, 1975, will be considered before final action is taken on this proposal. All comments received will be available for examination by interested persons at the Office of the Secretary, Hazardous Materials Regulations Board, Room 6215, Trans Point Building, Second and V Streets SW., Washington, D.C., both before and after the closing date for comments.

(Transportation of Explosives Act (18 U.S.C. 831-835), sec. 6, Department of Transportation Act, (49 U.S.C. 1655), delegation of authority by the Secretary of Transportation at 49 CFR 170.1.)

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ROBERT A. EAYE,
Board Member for the
Federal Highway Administration.

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