

1984 No. 97

## MERCHANT SHIPPING

## SAFETY

**The Merchant Shipping (Certificates of Proficiency  
in Survival Craft) Regulations 1984**

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	31st January 1984
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		10th February 1984
<i>Coming into Operation</i>		28th April 1984

The Secretary of State for Transport, after consulting with the persons referred to in section 22(2) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1979(a), in exercise of the powers conferred by section 21(1)(a), (3)(e) and (p), and (4)(a) of that Act and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

*Citation, commencement, amendment and interpretation*

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Certificates of Proficiency in Survival Craft) Regulations 1984 and shall come into operation on 28th April 1984.

(2) The following Regulations shall be amended as follows:

- (a) in both regulations 4(1)(d) and 7(2)(a)(ii) of the Merchant Shipping (Certificates of Competency as A.B.) Regulations 1970(b), there shall be inserted after the words “life-saving appliances” the following—  
“or a certificate issued under the Merchant Shipping (Certificates of Proficiency in Survival Craft) Regulations 1984”;
- (b) in regulation 1(2) of the Merchant Shipping (Life-saving Appliances) Regulations 1980(c), in the definition of “certificated lifeboatman” there shall be inserted after the words “of these Regulations” the following—  
“or under the Merchant Shipping (Certificates of Proficiency in Survival Craft) Regulations 1984”.

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(a) 1979 c. 39.

(b) S.I. 1970/294.

(c) S.I. 1980/538; to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(3) In these Regulations:

“approved” means approved by the Secretary of State;

“Merchant Shipping Notice” means a Notice described as such, issued by the Secretary of State;

“specified by the Secretary of State” means specified in Merchant Shipping Notice No. 1092 and any document amending or replacing it which is considered by the Secretary of State to be relevant from time to time and is specified in a Merchant Shipping Notice.

*Conditions for the grant of certificates*

2.—(1) An applicant for a certificate of proficiency in survival craft shall have

(a) attained 18 years of age;

(b) attended an approved basic sea survival course;

(c) either completed sea-going service of not less than 12 months or attended an approved survival craft training course and completed such lesser period of sea-going service as may be specified by the Secretary of State;

(d) satisfied the Secretary of State by examination that he is familiar with the matters set out in Schedule 1 hereto and as to his competence in the matters set out in Schedule 2 hereto.

(2) The conduct of any examination mentioned in paragraph (1) of this regulation, the conditions of admission to it and the appointment of examiners shall be such as may be specified by the Secretary of State.

*Issue of certificates*

3. The Secretary of State, upon receipt of any fee payable and being satisfied that the requirements of regulation 2 are met, may issue to an applicant a certificate of proficiency in survival craft.

*Record of certificates*

4. A record of all certificates of proficiency in survival craft issued under these Regulations and of the suspension, cancellation or alteration of, and any other matters affecting any such certificate shall be kept, in such manner as the Secretary of State may require, by the Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen or by such other person as the Secretary of State may direct.

*Loss of certificates*

5. If a person entitled to a certificate of proficiency in survival craft proves to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State that he has, without fault on his part, lost or been deprived of a certificate already issued to him, the Secretary of State shall, and where he is not so satisfied may, upon receipt of any fee payable, cause a copy of the certificate to which the said person appears to be entitled to be issued to him. Any such copy shall, before it is so issued, be certified as such by the Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen or, as the case may be, by such person as the Secretary of State may have directed to keep the record referred to in regulation 4.

*Nicholas Ridley,*  
Secretary of State for Transport.

31st January 1984.

## Regulation 2(d)

## SCHEDULE 1

1. Types of emergency situations which may occur, such as collisions, fire, foundering.
2. Principles of survival including:
  - (a) value of training and drills;
  - (b) need to be ready for any emergency;
  - (c) actions to be taken when called to survival craft stations;
  - (d) actions to be taken when required to abandon ship;
  - (e) actions to be taken when in the water;
  - (f) actions to be taken when aboard a survival craft;
  - (g) main dangers to survivors.
3. Special duties assigned to each crew member as indicated in the muster list, including the differences between the signals calling all crew to survival craft and to fire stations.
4. Types of life-saving appliances normally carried on board ships.
5. Construction and outfit of survival craft and individual items of their equipment.
6. Particular characteristics and facilities of survival craft.
7. Various types of devices used for launching survival craft.
8. Methods of launching survival craft in a rough sea.
9. Action to be taken after leaving the ship.
10. Handling survival craft in rough weather.
11. Use of painter, sea anchor and all other equipment.
12. Apportionment of food and water in survival craft.
13. Methods of helicopter rescue.
14. Use of first aid kit and resuscitation techniques.
15. Radio devices carried in survival craft, including emergency position-indicating radio beacons.
16. Effects of hypothermia and its prevention; use of protective covers and protective garments.

17. Methods of starting and operating a survival craft engine and its accessories together with the use of the fire extinguishers provided.

18. Use of emergency boats and motor lifeboats for marshalling liferafts and rescue of survivors and persons in the sea.

19. Beaching a survival craft.

## SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 2(d)

The ability to:

1. Don a life-jacket correctly.
2. Interpret the markings on survival craft with respect to the number of persons they are permitted to carry.
3. Make the correct commands required for launching and boarding the survival craft, clearing the ship and handling and disembarking from the survival craft.
4. Prepare and launch survival craft safely into water and clear the ship's side quickly.
5. Deal with injured persons both during and after abandonment.
6. Row and steer, erect a mast, set the sails, manage a boat under sail and steer a boat by compass.
7. Use signalling equipment, including pyrotechnics.
8. Use portable radio equipment for survival craft.

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations prescribe requirements for the issue of certificates of proficiency in survival craft. Certain more detailed requirements are specified by the Secretary of State in Merchant Shipping Notice No. 1092, which may be amended or replaced from time to time, and is obtainable from the Department of Transport Marine Library, Sunley House, 90 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LP and from any Department of Transport Marine Office.

The Regulations amend the Merchant Shipping (Certificates of Competency as A.B.) Regulations 1970 and the Merchant Shipping (Life-saving Appliances) Regulations 1980 to make the certificate of proficiency in survival craft an alternative to the lifeboatman's certificate issued under the latter Regulations.

The Regulations give effect in part to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (1978) (Cmnd. 7543) which was laid before Parliament in May 1979 and was ratified by the United Kingdom on 28th November 1980. The Convention will come into force internationally on 28th April 1984.



SI 1984/97 M  
ISBN 0-11-046097-9



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