
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2015 No. 782

**The Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training,
Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2015**

PART 2

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION: SHIPS

Certificates of competency, equivalent competency or proficiency

Qualification as an officer

6.—(1) A person must hold, in respect of the category and capacity in which that person is serving listed in column 1 of the Table in Schedule 3—

- (a) an appropriate certificate of competency; or
- (b) an appropriate certificate of equivalent competency.

(2) Subject to paragraph (6), the Secretary of State may issue a certificate of competency or a certificate of equivalent competency to a person only if that person complies with the criteria in the STCW Regulations listed in column (2) of that Table in relation to the category of service listed in column (1).

(3) A certificate of competency required by this regulation—

- (a) must be issued and endorsed in accordance with this Part;
- (b) entitles the holder to serve in the specified capacity; and
- (c) entitles the holder to perform the functions involved—
 - (i) at the specified level of responsibility;
 - (ii) on a ship of the type, GT or power and means of propulsion indicated by the endorsement; and
 - (iii) while engaged on the particular voyage concerned.

(4) In the circumstances specified in paragraph (5), the Secretary of State may permit a person who does not hold an appropriate certificate of competency to serve in an appropriate capacity on board a ship for a maximum period of three months.

(5) The circumstances referred to in paragraph (4) are—

- (a) the person holds a valid certificate issued by a third party State;
- (b) that certificate is appropriate for the capacity in which the person is to serve; and
- (c) the person has submitted an application to the Secretary of State under regulation 33 for a certificate of equivalent competency.

(6) The Secretary of State may issue an alternative certificate in accordance with Chapter VII of Annex I of the Directive.

Engine-room watch duties

7.—(1) This regulation applies to a seafarer performing watchkeeping duties in a manned or periodically unmanned engine room on a ship whose main propulsion machinery has a propulsion power of not less than 350 kilowatts, but less than 750 kilowatts.

(2) The seafarer must—

- (a) hold one of the engineering certificates of competency referred to in regulation 6; or
- (b) be the holder of a marine engine operator's licence issued in compliance with the criteria specified in section 10 of Merchant Shipping Notice 1857(M +F).

Radiocommunication and radio personnel on a GMDSS ship

8.—(1) A seafarer in charge of or performing radio duties on a ship required to participate in the GMDSS must hold a certificate of competency related to the GMDSS.

(2) A certificate of competency under this regulation may not be issued to a person ("the applicant") by the Secretary of State unless the applicant —

- (a) is at least 18; and
- (b) has completed the education and training and meets the standards of competence specified in section A-IV/2 of the STCW Code.

Seafarers on an oil or chemical tanker - basic training

9.—(1) A seafarer assigned specific duties and responsibilities related to cargo or cargo equipment on an oil or chemical tanker must hold a certificate of proficiency in basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations.

(2) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (1) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation V/1-1, paragraph 2.

Seafarers on an oil tanker - advanced training

10.—(1) This regulation applies to the following seafarers serving on board an oil tanker—

- (a) the master;
- (b) a chief engineer officer;
- (c) a chief mate;
- (d) a second engineer officer; and
- (e) any other seafarer with immediate responsibility for loading, discharging, care in transit, handling of cargo, tank cleaning or other cargo related operations.

(2) A person to whom this regulation applies must hold a certificate of proficiency in advanced training for oil tanker cargo operations.

(3) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (2) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation V/1-1, paragraph 4.

Seafarers on a chemical tanker - advanced training

11.—(1) This regulation applies to the following seafarers serving on board a chemical tanker—

- (a) the master;
- (b) a chief engineer officer;
- (c) a chief mate;

- (d) a second engineer officer; and
- (e) any other seafarer with immediate responsibility for loading, discharging, care in transit, handling of cargo, tank cleaning or other cargo related operations.

(2) A person to whom this regulation applies must hold a certificate of proficiency in advanced training for chemical tanker cargo operations.

(3) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (2) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation V/1-1, paragraph 6.

Seafarers on a liquefied gas tanker - basic training

12.—(1) An officer or rating assigned specific duties and responsibilities related to cargo or cargo equipment on a liquefied gas tanker must hold a certificate of proficiency in basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations.

(2) The Secretary of State may only issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (1) to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation V/1-2, paragraph 2.

Seafarers on a liquefied gas tanker - advanced training

13.—(1) This regulation applies to the following seafarers serving on board a liquefied gas tanker—

- (a) the master;
- (b) a chief engineer officer;
- (c) a chief mate;
- (d) a second engineer officer; and
- (e) any other seafarer with immediate responsibility for loading, discharging, care in transit, handling of cargo, tank cleaning or other cargo related operations.

(2) A person to whom this regulation applies must hold a certificate of proficiency in advanced training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations.

(3) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (2) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation V/1-2, paragraph 4.

Ratings forming part of a navigational watch

14.—(1) A rating forming part of a navigational watch on a ship of 500 GT or more must hold a certificate of proficiency to perform such duties.

(2) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (1) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation II/4, paragraph 2.

(3) This regulation does not apply to—

- (a) a rating under training; or
- (b) a rating whose duties are of an unskilled nature.

Ratings forming part of an engine-room watch

15.—(1) A rating forming part of an engine-room watch or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine-room on a ship powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 kilowatts propulsion power or more must hold a certificate of proficiency to perform such duties.

(2) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (1) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation III/4, paragraph 2.

- (3) This regulation does not apply to—
 - (a) a rating under training; or
 - (b) a rating whose duties are of an unskilled nature.

Ratings as able seafarer deck

16.—(1) An able seafarer deck serving on board a ship of 500 GT or more must hold a certificate of proficiency.

(2) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (1) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation II/5, paragraph 2 or paragraph 6.

Ratings as able seafarer engine

17.—(1) An able seafarer engine serving on board a ship powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 kilowatts propulsion power or more must hold a certificate of proficiency.

(2) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (1) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation III/5, paragraph 2 or 4.

Electro-technical ratings

18.—(1) An electro-technical rating serving on board a ship powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 kilowatts propulsion power or more, must hold a certificate of proficiency.

(2) The Secretary of State may only issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (1) to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation III/7, paragraph 2 or 4.

Seafarers designated to launch or take charge of a survival craft or rescue boat (other than a fast rescue boat)

19.—(1) A seafarer designated to launch or take charge of a survival craft or a rescue boat, other than a fast rescue boat, must hold a certificate of proficiency in such craft.

(2) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (1) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation VI/2, paragraph 1.

(3) In this regulation—

“liferaft” means a liferaft complying with the requirements of either Schedule 4 to Merchant Shipping Notice 1676(M) or Schedule 5 to Merchant Shipping Notice 1677(M); and

“survival craft” means a craft capable of sustaining the lives of persons in distress from the time of abandoning the ship.

Seafarers designated to launch or take charge of a fast rescue boat

20.—(1) A seafarer designated to launch or take charge of a fast rescue boat must hold a certificate of proficiency in such craft.

(2) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (1) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation VI/2, paragraph 2.

Ship security officers

21.—(1) A ship security officer must hold a certificate of proficiency for the performance of the duties or functions of such a role.

(2) The Secretary of State may issue a certificate of proficiency required by paragraph (1) only to a person who meets the criteria specified in STCW Regulation VI/5, paragraph 1.

(3) In this regulation, “ship security officer” means the person on board a ship, accountable to the master, designated by the company as responsible for the security of the ship including implementation and maintenance of the ship security plan and liaison with the company security officer and port facility security officers.

Seafarers on a passenger ship engaged on international voyages (other than a high speed craft)

22.—(1) This regulation applies to seafarers serving on board a passenger ship engaged on international voyages, other than a high speed craft.

(2) Prior to being assigned shipboard duties on board a passenger ship, a seafarer must have completed the training required by paragraphs (3) to (6) in accordance with their capacity, duties and responsibilities.

(3) Training in crowd management as specified in section A-V/2 of the STCW Code must be completed by the following—

- (a) the master;
- (b) each officer; and
- (c) any other seafarer designated on muster lists to assist passengers in emergency situations on board passenger ships.

(4) Safety training specified in section A-V/2 paragraph 2 of the STCW Code must be completed by a seafarer providing direct service to passengers in passenger spaces on board a passenger ship.

(5) Approved training in passenger safety, cargo safety and hull integrity as specified in section A-V/2, paragraph 4 of the STCW Code must be completed by—

- (a) the master;
- (b) a chief engineer officer;
- (c) a chief mate;
- (d) a second engineer officer; and
- (e) any other seafarer assigned immediate responsibility for embarking and disembarking passengers, loading, discharging or securing cargo, or closing hull openings on board a ro-ro passenger ship.

(6) Approved training in crisis management and human behaviour specified in section A-V/2, paragraph 3, of the STCW Code must be completed by—

- (a) the master;
- (b) a chief engineer officer;
- (c) a chief mate;
- (d) a second engineer officer; and
- (e) any other seafarer designated on muster lists as having responsibility for the safety of passengers in emergency situations.

(7) In paragraph (1) “international voyage” means a voyage from a port in one country to a port in another country, either of the countries being a Party to the STCW Convention.

Seafarers on a high speed craft

23.—(1) This regulation applies to a seafarer serving on board a high speed craft constructed on or after 1st January 1996.

(2) Before being assigned shipboard duties on board a high speed craft to which this regulation applies, a seafarer must complete the training specified in section 18.3.3 of the High Speed Craft Code.

(3) A person providing the training referred to in this regulation must issue documentary evidence to every person successfully completing such training.

(4) In the case of masters and officers, the documentary evidence must be a certificate in the form and must be endorsed in a manner specified by the Secretary of State in Merchant Shipping Notice 1740(M).

Safety familiarisation, basic training and instruction for all seafarers

24. Before being assigned to shipboard duties, a seafarer must—

- (a) receive familiarisation and basic training or instruction in accordance with section A-VI/1 of the STCW Code; and
- (b) meet the appropriate standard of competence specified in that section.

Seafarers designated as a fire fighting controller

25. A seafarer designated to control fire-fighting operations must—

- (a) have successfully completed advanced training in techniques for fighting fire, with particular emphasis on organisation, tactics and command in accordance with section A-VI/3, paragraphs 1 to 4 of the STCW Code; and
- (b) meet the standard of competence specified in that section.

Seafarers designated as a provider of medical first aid or to take charge of medical care

26.—(1) A seafarer designated to provide medical first aid on board a ship must meet the standard of competence in medical first aid specified in section A-VI/4, paragraphs 1 to 3 of the STCW Code.

(2) A seafarer designated to take charge of medical care on board a ship must meet the standard of competence in medical care on board ships specified in section A-VI/4, paragraphs 4 to 6 of the STCW Code.

Security-related familiarisation training for seafarers on an ISPS ship

27.—(1) This regulation applies to a seafarer serving on a seagoing ship which is required to comply with the provisions of the ISPS Code.

(2) Before being assigned to shipboard duties, a seafarer must—

- (a) receive security-awareness familiarisation and security-awareness training or instruction in accordance with section A-VI/6, paragraphs 1 to 4 of the STCW Code; and
- (b) meet the appropriate standard of competence specified in that section.

(3) A seafarer with designated security duties must meet the standard of competence specified in section A-VI/6, paragraphs 6 to 8 of the STCW Code.