



**MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY
STCW OFFICE**

STCW Circular No. 2014-05

TO : ALL MARITIME INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS, MARITIME HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, MARITIME TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, PORT STATE CONTROL, AND OTHER ENTITIES AND INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF SEAFARERS FOR SECURITY-RELATED TASKS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES ON BOARD SHIPS

Pursuant to Republic Act 10635 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), the 1978 International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW), as amended, and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, the following rules shall be adopted:

1. OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 To prescribe standards and procedures in compliance with the requirements of STCW Regulations VI/5 and VI/6 for mandatory minimum requirements for security related training and instruction for all seafarers; and
- 1.2 To ensure complete, effective and timely compliance with the ISPS Code, and the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended;

2. COVERAGE

This Circular shall apply to all seafarers, and to companies responsible for the assignment of seafarers for service on their ships.

3. DEFINITION OF TERMS

For the purpose of this Circular, in addition to the terms defined under STCW Circular No. 2014-01, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- 3.1 "Ship Security Officer" (SSO) means the person on board the 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, in accordance with Regulation VI/5 of the STCW Convention;
- 3.2 "Seafarer with Designated Security Duties" (SDSD) means any seafarer who is designated to perform security duties, including anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery-related activities, in accordance with Regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention;

- 3.3 "Security Awareness Training" (SAT) means the approved training program meeting the standards of competence required of any seafarer employed or engaged in any capacity on board a ship which is required to comply with the provisions of the ISPS Code on the business of that ship as part of the ship's complement without designated security duties, in accordance with Regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention;
- 3.4 "Three levels of security related training" refers to the approved training programs as Ship Security Officer (SSO), Seafarer with Designated Security Duties (SDSD) and Security Awareness Training (SAT);
- 3.5 "Security-related Familiarization Training" means on board training of all persons employed or engaged on a seagoing ship which is required to comply with the provisions of the ISPS Code, before being assigned to shipboard duties, conducted by the Ship Security Officer or an equally qualified person, to ensure that they are able to: report a security incident, including a piracy or armed robbery threat or attack; know the procedures to follow when they recognize a security threat; and take part in security-related emergency and contingency procedures.

4. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 4.1 The training requirements for the three levels of security-related training were designed, so that the higher levels of training would include the competencies of the lower levels of training;
- 4.2 SSO training encompasses the competence requirements of section A-VI/6, and therefore, holders of SSO certificates should not be required to undergo further training and obtain certification under section A-VI/6 related to competency seafarers with designated security duties (SDSD) and for security awareness (SAT);
- 4.3 Training for SDSD encompasses the competence requirements of Section A-VI/6, Par. 6, and therefore, holders of certificates for SDSD according to Regulation VI/6, Par. 5, should not be required to undergo further training and obtain certification related to competency for security awareness (SAT);
- 4.4 Since 01 January 2014, training is mandatory for all applicants of Certificate of Proficiency for any of the three levels of security-related training;
- 4.5 All shipping companies and manning agencies shall ensure that their seafarers, are given proper training and are appropriately certificated in relation to their security tasks, duties and responsibilities on board ship;
- 4.6 Until 01 July 2015, even if a seafarer's certification with regard to the security awareness training (SAT) or training for seafarers with designated security duties (SDSD) in regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention, as amended, and section A-VI/6, paragraphs 4 and 6 of the STCW Code, is not in accordance with the STCW Convention, as amended, it would be sufficient to accept compliance with Section 13 of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, pursuant to Par. 9 of IMO STCW.7, Circs.21 & 22, dated 25 February 2014;

- 4.7 However, given the large number of seafarers due to be certificated by this Administration, it is strongly advised that all seafarers be properly certificated at the earliest opportunity to avoid possible delays in the processing and issuance of these documents.

5. SPECIFIC PROCEDURES

- 5.1 SSO Training and the corresponding issuance of Certificate of Proficiency (COP) are required only for the Master and the SSO of the ship. As such, not all officers are required to have SSO Training and COP;
- 5.2 SSO Training and issuance of Certificate of Proficiency (COP) are not requirements for qualification as Officers in the Deck Department under Chapter II, or as Officers in the Engine Department under Chapter III. As such, it is the company's responsibility to ensure that the assigned SSO on board ship has been properly trained and is duly certificated;
- 5.3 An applicant for a COP as SSO is required to have a minimum approved seagoing service of not less than twelve (12) months, in addition to:
- .1 approved training program; and
 - .2 evidence of having achieved the standard of competence in accordance with the methods for demonstrating competence and the criteria for evaluating competence contained in STCW Code, Table A-VI/5;
- 5.4 An applicant for a COP as SDSD is required to have:
- .1 approved training program;
 - .2 evidence of having achieved the standard of competence through:
 - .1 demonstration of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in STCW Code, Column 1 of Table A-VI/6-2; and
 - .2 examination or continuous assessment as part of the approved training program.
- 5.5 An applicant for a COP in SAT is required to have:
- .1 approved training program;
 - .2 evidence of having achieved the standard of competence by:
 - .1 demonstration of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in STCW Code, Column 1 of Table A-VI/6-1; and
 - .2 examination or continuous assessment as part of the approved training program;
- 5.6 A Certificate of Proficiency issued under this Circular is not subject for revalidation;
- 5.7 However, this Administration requires that a seafarer undergo approved training and renewal of Certificate of Proficiency, unless the seafarer has approved seagoing service performing security-related tasks, duties and responsibilities, prior to embarkation, for a period of at least:
- .1 twelve months in total during the preceding five years; or
 - .2 three months in total during the preceding six months.
- 5.8 Security-related Familiarization Training remains the responsibility of the company responsible for operating the ship where the seafarer is engaged or employed.

6. REPEALING CLAUSE:

All previous issuances by MARINA or any other Philippine government agency related to training and certification of seafarers with security-related tasks, duties and responsibilities on board ship, are hereby superseded, repealed or amended accordingly.

7. EFFECTIVITY:


This STCW Circular shall take effect immediately on the day of its publication.

Manila, Philippines, September 9, 2014.

Submitted: .


CAPT. ALVIN "TOR" TORMON
Executive Director

Approved:


DR. MAXIMO Q. MEJIA, JR.
Administrator

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that STCW Circular No. 2014-05 was approved by the Administrator on 23 September 2014.


ATTY. JABETH SENA JEPATH A. DACANAY
Deputy Executive Director