

Subject

Certificate of Proficiency for the security awareness training or security training for seafarers with designated security duties required under the provisions of STCW VI/6

ClassNK

Technical Information

No. TEC-1025
Date 19 March 2015

To whom it may concern

With regard to the 2010 Manila amendments to the STCW, the Regulation VI/6 "Mandatory minimum requirements for security-related training and instruction for all seafarers" was newly established, and entered into force on 1 January 2014.

On the other hand, IMO issued the attached circular STCW.7/Circ.21 on 25 February 2014, which recommends that, even if the seafarer's certification is not in accordance with regulation section A-VI/6, paragraph 4 and 6 of the STCW Code, it would be sufficient to accept compliance with section 13 of ISPS Code until 1 July 2015.

Many Administrations have issued circular letters regarding the above IMO circular, urging the Companies to strive to have all seafarers be qualified and certified in accordance with STCW VI/6 during this transitional period.

As this transitional period will end on 1 July 2015, it is requested to make it sure that all the seafarers onboard hold the certificate of proficiency in accordance with STCW VI/6.

Please refer the attached latest circular letters issued by the major Flag Administrations.

(To be continued)

NOTES:

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Attachment:

1. IMO Circular STCW.7/Circ.21
2. Panama (DGGM-028-2014-UCYC)
3. Singapore (Shipping Circular No.6 of 2014 / No.16 of 2013)
4. Hong Kong (Merchant Shipping Information Note No.20/2014 / No.50/2012)
5. Marshall Islands (Marine Safety Advisory No.30-14)
6. Liberia (Marine Operation Note: 01/2013)

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STCW.7/Circ.21
25 February 2014

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON
STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS
(STCW), 1978, AS AMENDED**

Advice for port State control officers, recognized organizations and recognized security organizations on action to be taken in cases where seafarers do not carry certification required in accordance with regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention and section A-VI/6, paragraphs 4 and 6 of the STCW Code after 1 January 2014

1 The Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping, at its first session (17 to 21 February 2014), reviewed progress with the implementation of certification requirements related to security-awareness training and training for seafarers with designated security duties, in accordance with regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention and section A-VI/6, paragraphs 4 and 6 of the STCW Code by Parties.

2 The Sub-Committee noted that the transitional provision under section A-VI/6, for those seafarers who commenced an approved seagoing service prior to 1 January 2012 ended on 1 January 2014.

3 The Sub-Committee was concerned that, after the end of the transitional period on 1 January 2014, there may be practical difficulties for seafarers to obtain necessary security certification required in accordance with regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention and section A-VI/6, paragraphs 4 and 6 of the STCW Code.

4 The Sub-Committee was particularly concerned about the fact that large numbers of seafarers were reportedly unable to have access to approved training courses or unable to be issued certification of security related training in accordance with regulation VI/6 and section A-VI/6, paragraphs 4 and 6.

5 The Sub-Committee further noted the current difficulties faced by the shipping community in implementing the amended provisions of regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention.

6 The Sub-Committee therefore urged all concerned, in particular STCW Parties and Administrations, to do their utmost to ensure that certificates on security awareness training and training for seafarers with designated security duties are issued, in accordance with the requirements of regulation VI/6 and section A-VI/6, as soon as possible.

7 The Sub-Committee recognized that seafarers on board ships may not yet hold certification in security awareness training or training on designated security duties, required by regulation VI/6 and section A-VI/6, paragraphs 4 and 6, and agreed that until 1 July 2015, in cases where a seafarer does not hold certification in security awareness training or training on designated security duties, in accordance with regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention and section A-VI/6, paragraphs 4 and 6 of the STCW Code, it would be sufficient to accept compliance with section 13 of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

8 The Sub-Committee urged port State control authorities to take the above factors into consideration when exercising control procedures in article X and regulation I/4 of the STCW Convention.

9 In this context, the Sub-Committee recommended that Administrations should inform their port State control authorities that, until 1 July 2015, even if a seafarer's certification with regard to the security awareness training or training for seafarers with designated security duties 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.

10 The Sub-Committee further recommended that Administrations should also inform recognized organizations and recognized security organizations issuing ISM Code and ISPS Code certification under International Convention of Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (SOLAS), as amended, that, until 1 July 2015, if a seafarer's certification is not in accordance with regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention, as amended, and section A-VI/6, paragraphs 4 and 6 of the STCW Code, it would be sufficient to accept compliance with section 13 of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

11 Member Governments are invited to be guided accordingly and to bring the contents of this circular to the attention of all concerned, especially port State control officers and recognized organizations and recognized security organizations.

NOV. -4, 2014



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
General Directorate of Seafarers

CIRCULAR
DGGM-028-2014-UCYC

TO: Ship-owners/Operators, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates, Recognized Organizations (OR's), Inspectorates, Regional Documentation Offices, and Authorized Offices.

FROM: 
José Luis Aizpurúa, Msc.
General Director of Seafarers.



SUBJECT: EMERGENCY, SAFETY & SECURITY TRAINING

DATE: October 31, 2014

The purpose of this Circular is to inform all users that the General Directorate of Seafarers, REVOKES AND DECLARES VOID the Circular DGGM-021-2013-UCYC and establish the following:

1. All seafarers employed or engaged aboard a Panamanian Flagged seagoing vessel 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 shall, before being assigned to any shipboard duties:
 - a. Receive appropriate approved training in security awareness, IMO Model Course 3.27 (Security Awareness Training for all Seafarers) or similar course as set out in the STCW Table A-VI/6-1
 - b. Apply for Endorsement of said Course/Training (Certificate of Proficiency).
2. Every Seafarer who is designated to perform security duties, including anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery-related activities, shall be required to:
 - a. Receive appropriate approved training in IMO Model Course 3.26 (Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties) or similar course as set out in the STCW Table A-VI/6-2.
 - b. Apply for Endorsement of said Course/Training (Certificate of Proficiency).
3. Any Officer who has received Ship Security Officer Training may request a Ship Security Officer (SSO) Certificate of Competency (CoC) or Certificate of Endorsement (CoE) upon providing evidence of the following:

- a. Having approved seagoing service of not less than 12 months or appropriate seagoing service and knowledge of ship operations.
 - b. Having a valid Panamanian Officer Certificate of Competency (CoC) or Certificate of Endorsement (CoE).
 - c. Having approved the SSO Training Course, IMO Model Course 3.19 or similar which covers the requirements established in STCW Section A-VI/5.
 - d. Apply for Endorsement of said Course/Training (Certificate of Proficiency) when applying for SSO CoC.
4. Seafarers who comply with Item 2 are exempt of complying with Item 1; Officers who comply with Item 3 are exempt of complying with Items 1 and 2.

All officers must receive appropriate approved training as established on point 2 or 3; and rating personnel must receive appropriate approved training as established on point 1 or 2 of this circular.

5. Shipowners/Operators are required to man their vessels with competent personnel who comply with the regulations of CHAPTER VI, Regulation VI/5 and VI/6, Section A-VI/5 and A-VI/6 of the STCW'78, as amended. Said crew shall be in possession of the appropriate Certificates of Proficiency and Certificates of Competency.
6. The administration informs to all seafarers that they may start applying now for the new Course Endorsements and Certificates of Competency.
7. Taking in consideration the recommendations done by the Sub-committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping of the International Maritime Organization, on those cases that the seafarer's certification is not in accordance with Regulation VI/& of the STCW'78 Convention, as amended and paragraphs 4 and 6 with Section A-VI/6 of the STCW Code, this Maritime Administration will accept instead, the compliance of Section 13 of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS Code), until July 1st, 2015.
8. This Administration informs to Seafarers that the requirements listed in this Circular, will be mandatory from July 1st, 2015.



**MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE
SHIPPING CIRCULAR TO SHIPOWNERS
NO 6 OF 2014**

MPA Shipping Division
460 Alexandra Road
#21-00, PSA Building
Singapore 119963
Fax: 6375-6231
<http://www.mpa.gov.sg>

12 March 2014

Applicable to: Shipowners, ship managers, company security officers, ship security officers, crew and masters of Singapore ships.

CLARIFICATIONS OF THE SECURITY RELATED TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION FOR SEAFARERS REQUIRED UNDER THE 2010 MANILA AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS (STCW CONVENTION).

1 Shipping Circular No 16 of 2013 informed shipping community on the security-related training requirements for seafarers under the STCW Convention onboard ships. This circular provides further clarifications pertaining to the training and certification requirements for seafarers.

2 It was noted from feedback received from the industry that ships' officers who have completed training and holding appropriate certificates as ship security officer (SSO) meeting the competence requirements of section A-VI/5 of the revised STCW Convention, were asked to provide evidence of having completed training in security familiarisation or in designated security duties in compliance with section A-VI/6 of the STCW Convention. IMO has promulgated a circular STCW.7/Circ.22 (copy attached as Annex A) clarifying that seafarers holding SSO Certificates would not be required to undergo additional training and certification on both security awareness and seafarers with designated security duties.

3 Many seafarers had faced practical difficulties to obtain STCW Convention compliant security awareness certificate or seafarers with designated security duties before the transitional period ended on 1 January 2014. IMO, recognising this, has promulgated a circular STCW.7/Circ.21, (copy attached as Annex B) advising port state control officers, recognised organisations and recognised security

organisations that until 1 July 2015, even if a seafarer does not carry certification in security awareness training or seafarers with designated security duties as required in accordance with Regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention and Section A-VI/6, it would be sufficient to accept compliance with section 13 of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

4 Although the circular STCW.7/Circ.21 provides some leeway for the security related certification of seafarers, port state control officers may record the findings of non-compliance to the revised STCW Convention as a deficiency in their inspection report. MPA therefore, strongly urges companies to strive to get their seafarers qualified and certified in accordance with 2010 Manila amendments to the STCW Convention as soon as possible.

5 Any queries regarding this circular should be addressed to Capt I G Sangameswar (Tel no. 6375 6205) or Capt Khoo Gek Hung (Tel no. 6375 1935).

TAN SUAN JOW
DIRECTOR OF MARINE
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE



**MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF
SINGAPORE
SHIPPING CIRCULAR TO SHIPOWNERS
NO 16 OF 2013**

MPA Shipping Division
460 Alexandra Road
#21-00, PSA Building
Singapore 119963
Fax: 6375-6231
<http://www.mpa.gov.sg>

16 September 2013

Applicable to: Shipowners, ship managers, company security officers, ship security officers, crew and masters of Singapore ships.

SECURITY RELATED TRAINING FOR SEAFARERS UNDER THE 2010 MANILA AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS (STCW CONVENTION).

1 This circular highlights key requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the STCW convention pertaining to the security-related training for seafarers onboard a ship which is required to comply with the provisions of the International Ship and Port facility Security (ISPS) Code.

Minimum Requirements for Security-awareness Training

2 Seafarers employed or engaged in any capacity on board a ship are required to complete a security-awareness training meeting the competence standards given in table A-VI/6-1 of Section A of the STCW Code. Seafarers who have completed such training shall hold a certificate of proficiency (COP) issued by an MPA approved training provider in Singapore.

Minimum Requirements for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties

3 A seafarer who is designated to perform security-related duties, such as anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery related activities, shall be appropriately trained and be competent to perform onboard security duties. The training shall meet the competence standards given in table A-VI/6-2 of Section A of the STCW Code. Seafarers who have completed training shall hold a COP issued by an MPA approved training provider in Singapore.

Onboard Security-related Familiarisation Training

4 All seafarers onboard a ship shall receive security-related familiarisation training before being assigned to shipboard duties. The training shall include the reporting of security incident such as piracy or armed robbery, knowledge of procedures to follow when they recognise a security threat and participate in security related emergency and contingency procedural exercises. Such training shall be conducted by the ship's security officer (SSO) or an equally qualified person and take into account the guidance given in STCW Code B, Section B-VI/6. Records of such familiarisation training conducted shall be kept onboard under the ship's safety management system.

Seafarers who qualify under Transitional Provisions

5 Until 1 January 2014, any seafarer who started sea service prior to 1 Jan 2012 with at least 6 months of seagoing service in total as a ship crew during the preceding three years and has been briefed in security duties and participated in security-related emergency and contingency procedural exercises, would be considered as meeting the requirements of Section A- VI/6-5 or A-VI/6-9 of the STCW Code, without undertaking further training.

6 Company Security Officers of shipping companies should make a list of the seafarers who comply with the transitional provisions (grandfather clause) in the STCW Convention by virtue of the 6 months seagoing service and forward them to MPA via e-mail at coc@mpa.gov.sg. MPA would after perusal of the list, confirm which of the seafarers in the list have met the transitional provisions. The shipping companies could issue documentary evidence to the individual seafarer who has complied with transitional provisions of the STCW. All companies are requested to use the sample form given in **Annex A** when writing to MPA.

Issuance of COP under Transitional Provisions

7 For seafarers who have undertaken security-related training before the 1 Jan 2012 or performed security-related functions could obtain a COP from any of the approved training providers in Singapore by attending a bridging course or examination to achieve the required standard of competence set out in Table A-VI/6-1 or A-VI/6-2 of the STCW Code. Approved training providers could issue (i) COP for Security Awareness (ii) COP for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties to seafarers who have been found competent in accordance with table A-VI/6-1 or A-VI/6-2 of the STCW Code respectively. MPA approved training providers for security awareness and designated security duties are listed in **Annex B**.

Recognition of COP from overseas

8 MPA will recognise COP for Security Awareness Training and Seafarers with Designated Security Duties issued in accordance with the STCW Convention if they are issued by or under the authority of a maritime authority which is in the STCW "white" list. There is no need for any endorsement by MPA to recognise such COP.

Requirements for Ship Security Officer (SSO)

9 There is no change to the requirement of a SSO. All ships must have at least one officer designated as the SSO. All SSO must comply with the requirements specified in Regulation VI/5 of the STCW Convention and shall hold a COP as SSO issued by or under the approval of a party to the STCW Convention whose certificates of competency are recognised by MPA. There is no need for any endorsement by MPA to recognise COP as SSO issued by or under the authority of a foreign maritime administration. The list of countries whose certificates of competency are recognised by MPA is given in the Annex to the Shipping Circular MC-13 of 2001.

10 Any queries regarding this circular should be addressed to Capt I G Sangameswar (Tel no. 6375 6205) or Capt Khoo Gek Hung (Tel no. 6375 1935).

CHEONG KENG SOON
DIRECTOR OF MARINE
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE



香 港 商 船 資 訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Implementation and Clarification of Security-Related Training

To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Company Security Officers, Ship Security Officers and Seafarers.

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to inform shipping community on updating the implementation schedule of the security-related training and clarification of the certification issue in accordance with the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended.

1. Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 50/2012 provided mandatory requirements on the security-related training for seafarers under STCW Convention on board Hong Kong registered ships. This Note serves to update the implementation schedule and clarifies the certification issue of the security-related training.

2. It was noted that there might be some practical difficulties for seafarers to obtain certification on security awareness (SA) training and designated security duties (DSD) training certification after the transitional period ended on 1 January 2014. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) recognizes this situation and has promulgated the Circular STCW.7/Circ.21 to advise port state control officers, recognized organisations and recognized security organisations that until 1 July 2015, in cases where a seafarer does not hold such certification in accordance with regulation VI/6 of the STCW Convention and section A-VI/6, paragraphs 4 and 6 of the STCW Code, it would be sufficient to accept compliance with section 13 of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

3. Although the Circular STCW.7/Circ.21 gives flexibility on the certification of seafarers on security-related training, port state control officers may still record the finding as deficiency in their inspection reports. In this respect, the Marine Department strongly urges all Shipowners and Ship Managers of Hong Kong registered ships to do their utmost to ensure compliance with the requirements as soon as possible.

4. It is noted that the security-related training, consists of the three levels of training: SA, DSD and ship security officer (SSO), with the training for SSO being the highest level. IMO recognises that the training requirements for the higher levels of training would include the competencies of the lower levels of training. In this regard, the Circular STCW.7/Circ.22 clarifies that seafarers holding SSO certification should not be required to obtain DSD and SA training certificates. Similarly, seafarers holding DSD should not be required to obtain SA training certificate.

5. Both the Circulars STCW.7/Circ.21 and STCW.7/Circ.22 can be found on the website of Marine Department as attachments to this Note.

6. Enquiries relating to this Note should be made to the Senior Surveyor of Ships/Seafarers' Certification on telephone no.: (+852) 2852 4368; fax no.: (+852) 2541 6754; or e-mail address: ssrt@mardep.gov.hk.

Marine Department
Shipping Division

23 April 2014



香港商船資訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Security-related Trainings for Seafarers

To : *Shipowners, Seafarers and Seafarers' Unions*

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to inform shipowners, seafarers and seafarers' unions regarding the mandatory requirements of security-related trainings in the STCW Convention and the transitional provisions until 1 January 2014 for existing seafarers.

1. The 2010 Amendments of STCW Convention entered into force on 1 January 2012 and STCW Reg. VI/6 in respect of security-related trainings introduced the following mandatory training requirements for seafarers:-

- (a) security-related familiarization training;
- (b) security-awareness training; and
- (c) security training for seafarers with designated security duties.

Details of the above mentioned STCW provisions can be found in the appendix to this Note on Marine Department's web-site (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>).

2. Transitional provisions until 1 January 2014 are given in Section A-VI/6 of the STCW Code for seafarers who commenced sea service before 1 January 2012, i.e. existing seafarers. Existing seafarers will be deemed to comply with the above security-related trainings listed in paragraphs 1(b) and 1(c) if they meet the transitional provisions via approved sea service, test or training where applicable within the transitional period. However, existing seafarers are still required to fully comply with the training requirements on expiry of the transitional period. Seafarers holding non-Hong Kong qualification should approach their certificate issuing authority regarding the upgrading of their certification on security-related training.

3. As the security-related training requirements will be in full implementation on and after 1 January 2014, holders of Hong Kong certificate of competency shall meet the standard of competence in respect of security-related training as specified in Section A-VI/6 of the STCW Code when they seek for revalidation of their certificates after that date and this can be demonstrated by successfully completing an approved security-related training course. For Hong Kong seafarers who hold documents on previous security-related training courses, they may approach Seafarers' Certification Section of the Marine Department for upgrading of their existing certificates. Marine Department will determine whether additional training or examination or interview is required in meeting the STCW requirements. Security-related training courses approved by recognized STCW signatory Parties for the issue of Hong Kong licences are accepted by the Marine Department and the certificate of proficiency issued by these countries are considered as equivalent certificates.

4. Enquiries relating to this Note should be made to the Senior Surveyor of Ships/Seafarers' Certification on telephone no.: (+852) 2852 4368; fax no.: (+852) 2541 6754; or e-mail address: sscrt@mardep.gov.hk.

Marine Department
Shipping Division

31 August 2012

Republic of the Marshall Islands
Office of the
MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY NO. 30-14

To: Regional Marine Safety Offices, Nautical Inspectors, Masters, Owners/Agents

Subject: SECURITY AWARENESS TRAINING AND TRAINING FOR THOSE WITH SPECIFIC SECURITY DUTIES

Date: 4 June 2014

Please be advised that the Standards for the Training, Certification and Watchstanding Convention 1978 as amended in 2010 (commonly called the Manila Amendments and hereinafter referred to as STCW) requires, in Regulation VI/6, that all seafarers receive security-related familiarization and security-awareness training or instruction. Additionally, those with designated security duties must likewise be trained. Accordingly, the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the "Administrator") will require evidence of this training or instruction to issue seafarer documentation from that date forward for all seafarers applying for STCW documents.

Individual certificates for the training outlined above are available as an optional certificate upon request. Any STCW seafarer documentation issued to seafarers after 1 January 2014 provides evidence the seafarer has been trained or instructed in security awareness only.

Security-related familiarization will need to be performed when a seafarer reports to a vessel and should be specific to the Ship Security Plan (SSP) on board.

Since designated security duties are subject to the approved SSP on board any individual vessel, this training will need to be evident only to authorities who inspect or audit vessels. Those seafarers who fill those capacities named in the SSP as having designated duties will need to provide evidence that they have been appropriately trained or instructed to inspecting authorities.

The Administrator will require the following as evidence a seafarer has been appropriately trained for security awareness:

1. A training certificate for security awareness from a facility whose course is approved by the maritime administration of a nation that is on the IMO white list as compliant with the provisions of STCW; or

2. A training certificate for Ship Security Officer or Training for those with designated security duties from a facility whose course is approved by the maritime administrator of a nation that is on the IMO white list as compliant with the provisions of STCW; or
3. A letter on the letterhead of a vessel operator (does not have to be of RMI vessels) that the named seafarer served on board a vessel that had an approved and active SSP during the seafarer's assignment. The sea service must accrue to a minimum total of six (6) months.

The letter must, at a minimum, state the name of the seafarer, assigned capacity, time of service on board, vessel name, IMO number, that he/she had received ship board security familiarization training, and that the vessel's SSP was approved and active during this time.

For those who have designated security duties, he/she should provide documentary evidence similar to the above. A letter should also state that the SSP required his/her stated capacity to perform specific duties on board related to the SSP and what those specific duties were.



Office of
Deputy Commissioner
of Maritime Affairs

THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
LIBERIA MARITIME AUTHORITY

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7 October 2013

Marine Operations Note: 01/2013

Subject: Security Related Training for Seafarers

**Reference: (a) STCW Section A/VI/6
(b) STCW.7/Circ.17 dated 24 May 2011**

Dear Shipowner/Operator/Master/Manning and Crewing Agents;

The purpose of this note is to provide the Liberian Administration's policy regarding security-related training required in the 2010 Manila amendments to the STCW Convention, ref (a). The STCW security-related training requirements came into force on 1 January 2012. However, seafarers that commenced an approved seagoing service prior to 1 January 2012 may be recognized as meeting the requirements, as provided in ref (b) and in this Note.

The provisions regarding security-related training contained in STCW Regulation VI/6, Section A-VI/6 and Section B-VI/6 cover the following:

1. Security related familiarization training,
2. Security awareness training, and
3. Proficiency in designated security duties

Security related familiarization training:

All persons employed or engaged in any capacity on board a ship, that must comply with the ISPS Code, shall receive security familiarization training by the SSO or an equally qualified person, prior to being assigned any shipboard duties. The training should emphasize ship specific security issues:

- Reporting a security incident, including a piracy or armed robbery threat or attack;
- Procedures to follow when the seafarer recognizes a security threat; and
- Participation in exercises for security-related emergency and contingency procedures.

Certification is not required from the Administration. Evidence of this training shall be entered into the seafarer's official training record or the ships training record/log.

Security awareness training:

Seafarers employed or engaged in any capacity on board a ship, that must comply with the ISPS Code, shall complete security-awareness training meeting the competence standards given in table A-VI/6-4 of the STCW Code. Seafarers should have a certificate of proficiency (COP) issued by a training provider approved by the Administration, as evidence of satisfactory completion of the training.

The Liberian Administration may accept training courses approved by a maritime authority which is on the IMO STCW "white" list.

The Administration will make available a Special Qualification Certificate (SQC) for those seafarers who wish to apply for the Liberian certificate and who provide evidence of competence. The SQC will be available as an endorsement or a certificate depending on how the training was gained.

Seafarers with designated security duties:

All seafarers that are designated to perform security-related duties, including anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery related activities, shall be appropriately trained and be competent to perform onboard security duties meeting the competence standards given in table Section A-VI/6, paragraphs 6-8. Seafarers should have a COP issued by a training provider approved by the Administration, as evidence of satisfactory completion of the training.

Transitional provisions:

Seafarers requiring security awareness training, who commenced an approved seagoing service prior to 1 January 2012, will be considered as meeting the requirements of Section A- VI/6-4 of the STCW Code, without undertaking further training by demonstrating:

- approved seagoing service for at least 6 months in the previous three years; or
- having performed security functions considered equivalent to 6 months service in the past three years, or
- by passing an approved test, or
- by completing approved training.

Seafarers with designated security duties who commenced an approved seagoing service prior to 1 January, 2012, would be considered as meeting the requirements of Section A-VI/6-9 of the STCW Code, without undertaking further training, by demonstrating competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/6-2 by:

- having approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel with designated security duties, for a period of at least 6 months in total during the preceding 3 years, or
- having performed security functions considered to be equivalent to the seagoing service required above, or
- passing an approved test, or
- completing approved training.

This transition period will end on 1 January 2014, and owners are reminded of the need to ensure that all seafarers who require this training acquire the appropriate documentary evidence of training before that date.

Although not mandatory, the Administration will make available a SQC for those seafarers who can provide evidence of competency and who wish to apply for the Liberian certificate. This will be available as an endorsement or a certificate, depending on how the training was gained.

The Administration will recognize a COP issued for security awareness training or for seafarers with designated security duties that have been issued by another Administration in accordance with the STCW Convention.

For additional information please contact Seafarers Certification and Documentation Department at +1 703 790-3434 or email: seafarers@LISCR.com.

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