

barbados maritime ship registry

INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 215

Security-related Training & Instruction for all seafarers (STCW Reg.VI/6)

STCW Convention Reg.VI/6 will apply from 1st January 2014 and applies to seafarers on all Barbados registered vessels to which the ISPS Code applies. This bulletin addresses the new requirements and explains how ship-owners can ensure compliance for their seafarers.

1. Familiarisation training

Training applies from 1st Jan 2014 to all persons employed or engaged in any capacity on ships, prior to being assigned shipboard duties; it does not apply to passengers.

Instruction must be undertaken by the Ship Security Officer or another equally qualified person. The instruction should provide guidance for the seafarer as a minimum, to be able to:

- (a) Report a security incident;
- (b) Know what procedures are to be followed when a security threat is recognised and
- (c) Take part in security related emergency and contingency procedures.

2. Standard of competence for security awareness training (for seafarers without designated security duties)

The training only needs to be given once in the seafarer's career as there is no requirement at present for refreshment or revalidation.

Barbados Ships' Registry considers this training should apply as a minimum to all members of the deck, engine-room and catering departments on the vessel. Before being assigned to any shipboard duties, seafarers without designated security duties shall receive training as set out in Annex 1, Table A-VI/6 of STCW Regulations.

When training has been completed, the seafarer shall be able to:

- (a) Contribute to the enhancement of maritime security through heightened awareness;
- (b) Recognise security threats; and
- (c) Understand the need for and methods of maintaining security awareness and vigilance.

For existing seafarers there is a transitional provision (see section 4).

3. Standard of competence for seafarers with designated security duties

As previously mentioned, training need be given once in the seafarer's career as there is no requirement for refreshment or revalidation.

This applied to every seafarer designated to perform security duties as stated in the Ship Security Plan and also includes anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery related activities. When training has been completed, the seafarer shall have enough knowledge to perform on board designated security duties including anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery incidents.

These seafarers shall be required to demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities shown in column 1 of table A-VI/6-2 of the STCW Code which includes:-

- (a) Maintaining the conditions set out in a Ship Security Plan;
- (b) Recognising security risks and threats;
- (c) Undertaking regular security inspections; and
- (d) Properly using security equipment and systems.

For existing seafarers there is a transitional provision (see Section 4 below)

4. Transitional provisions

There are transitional provisions for:

1. Security awareness training – for seafarers who commenced sea service before 01/01/2012.
2. Standard of competence for seafarers with designated security duties – for seafarers with designated security duties who began sea service before 01/01/2012.

In both cases these seafarers are not required to undertake further training provided they can demonstrate they meet the requirements by –

- (a) having approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel for a period of at least six months in total during the preceding three years. This can be verified by a Barbados Nautical Inspector during flag safety inspection by checking the seafarer's discharge book or the record of employment issued by their employer. As an alternative, the seafarer's employer can issue their own certificates to seafarers confirming the seafarer has accrued the necessary sea time to meet this requirement, or:
- (b) having performed security functions after 01/07/2004, considered to be equivalent to the seagoing service required by (a), or;
- (c) successfully completing approved training (see section 6 Training Centres).

5. Recognising certificates issued by other administrations

Barbados Maritime will recognise Certificates of Proficiency issued for security awareness training or Certificates of Proficiency for seafarers with designated security duties that have been issued by another Administration in accordance with the STCW Convention.

6. Training Centres

1. A training centre can be a shore based establishment or a shipping company.
2. The training allowed may be: classroom instruction, in-service training, distance learning, computer-based training or a combination of these.
3. Training Centres that have been confirmed as meeting the STCW VI/6 training requirements by another Administration or a Recognised Organisation
4. The training centre shall issue a Certificate of Proficiency to the seafarer on successful completion of the training.

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